

'Last chance' support for British plan on Rhodesia

Wealth leaders, while still sceptical about the outcome, yesterday accepted Britain's initiative for a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia as worth a "last throw" in trying to force the Smith government to hand over to a new administration. At the same time, Mr. Smith recognized that the guerrilla war was continuing.

Callaghan accepts the war will go on

Prime Minister James Callaghan yesterday said that the guerrilla war in Rhodesia would continue, but that the British Government would continue to support the Smith administration. He said that the British Government would continue to support the Smith administration, but that it would not support the guerrilla war. He said that the British Government would continue to support the Smith administration, but that it would not support the guerrilla war. He said that the British Government would continue to support the Smith administration, but that it would not support the guerrilla war.

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Lesians raid Umbique

Correspondent June 10

A security force raid on a communal area in the Umbique region of Rhodesia yesterday resulted in the deaths of several guerrillas. The raid was part of a series of operations aimed at disrupting the guerrilla war in the region.

A soldier killed in the raid was named as Trooper John Smith. He was the 15th of the Rhodesian army to be killed in the guerrilla war since 1972. In the same raid, more than 100 guerrillas were captured and taken to a detention camp.

No likelihood of British fishing in Icelandic waters

Assessments in Brussels of the latest round of fishing negotiations in Reykjavik between the EEC and Iceland indicate that the likelihood of British fishing vessels being allowed to fish in Icelandic waters this year can be abandoned. Mr. Einar Agustsson, the Foreign Minister, claimed that the issue was not even raised during the talks.

However, a Foreign Office spokesman said that the matter was discussed. He added that no conclusion was reached. Page 3

Namibia progress

Under concerted Western pressure South Africa has abandoned its plan to install an interim Government in Namibia. In an important change of policy, it has also accepted the principle that the United Nations should play a supervisory role in free elections. These could take place later this year. Page 4

Burden on police

An increase in violence has put Britain's metropolitan police forces with their backs to the wall, and the burden may get worse before it gets better, Mr. James Anderson, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, said. Page 3

Vesco expulsion

Mr Robert Vesco has been asked to leave Costa Rica where he has been since 1972. The American financier is accused of embezzling more than \$12m and of attempting to prevent an investigation of his affairs by giving money to President Nixon's re-election campaign. Page 4

Assembly demand

The Scottish Council of the Labour Party has told the Government that legislation for a Scottish assembly should be carried before the next election. Page 2

Awards for arts and sports in the Jubilee Honours list

By a Staff Reporter

The combined silver jubilee and birthday honours list published today is the largest since the coronation in 1953; it is a fifth longer than the usual half-yearly list. There were no political honours, however.

Five new life peers have been created: Mr Philip Noel Baker, a former Labour minister and recipient of the Nobel peace prize; Sir Michael Cresswell, former Chief of the Defence Staff; Mr Pratap Chitambar, chief executive of the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust; Sir Eric Roll, a former senior civil servant and now chairman of S. G. Warburg and Co and a director of the Bank of England; and Mr Kenneth Westhead, director of the Young Willcocks, director of the Royal College of Music, is knighted. Among musicians honoured were Mr Alexander Gibson, principal conductor and director of Scottish Opera, who is knighted, and Mr Richard Rodney Bennett, the composer, who is made a CBE. Mr David Willocks, director of the Royal College of Music, is knighted. Entertainers and television performers honoured include Mr Brian Rix, who is made a CBE for services to the handicapped. Mr Dickie Henderson (OBE for services to charity), and Mr Robert Harris (OBE), Mr Ted Hughes, the poet, is appointed OBE. Two Commonwealth Prime Ministers are honoured. Mr



Newly honoured (from left to right): Professor Kenneth Wedderburn and Mr Pratap Chitambar, who become life peers; Mr Peter Hall, who is knighted; and Sir John Gielgud, who becomes a Companion of Honour.

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Europeans carrying President Amin in 1975. Mr Scanlon is at the left, with the moustache.

Uganda, although they were recently forbidden to leave the country by President Amin after the British Government had told him to stay away from the Commonwealth conference. The limit of three people to a car could well prevent members of a single family from travelling together. A staff reporter writes: Accord-

ing to reports reaching London, Mr Scanlon runs a small electrical firm in Kampala. His wife, who is a British subject, has been in touch with British representatives in Uganda but her husband can be offered no protection. The couple have two children, believed to be at school in Britain.

Man held in spy case named by Uganda

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, June 10

Uganda radio today named the man held on spying charges as "Cullen" and said he was a Briton. But sources in Kampala said the man concerned was Mr Robert Scanlon, a service manager with a motor company there, who renounced his British citizenship two years ago and is now a Ugandan citizen.

No details are known of the charges against Mr Scanlon but President Amin was quoted by Uganda radio as saying that the case was so serious that any sentence imposed by the military tribunal would be carried out before the end of next week. He also said that after execution, there would be no question of the body being handed to anyone—the procedure which was adopted in Angola when white mercenaries were executed. The time and place of any execution would not be made known.

Mr Scanlon was one of a group of Europeans who ceremoniously carried President Amin in a chair in Kampala two years ago, the President symbolizing the "white man's burden". Soon after that incident, he was among a group of Britons and other Europeans who were formally granted Ugandan citizenship and were pictured kneeling before President Amin as they took the oath of loyalty to Uganda. Late tonight a Ugandan military spokesman ordered British nationals not to gather in

Mortgage rate is cut to 10½%

By Margaret Stone

The mortgage interest rate is to come down from 11 to 10½ per cent, the Building Societies Association announced yesterday. The rate paid to investors will be trimmed from 7 per cent to 6½ per cent. The decision to cut the rate, Mr Ralph Stow, the association's chairman, said, "was a step of faith" that the Government would be able to negotiate a satisfactory third stage in the pay policy and reduce the basic rate of tax from 35 to 33 per cent. Net building society receipts in May reached £511m, beating April's record of £475m. The figure is higher than had been expected. That, Mr Stow said, meant that most people who want a mortgage this year should have no difficulty in getting one. The increased lending power of the societies is being reflected in lending levels. In May £514m was lent to house buyers and home loans granted but not yet taken up totalled a record £666m. It was only last January that commitments shrank to £358m, compared with monthly commitments of about £500m for most of last year. The cut in the interest rate has come as no surprise. When the societies reduced the mortgage rate from 12½ to 11½ per cent in April it was immediately expected that the rate would have to come down again. But hopes that another cut of a full point would be made had to be abandoned. The new rate comes into effect immediately for new borrowers and from July 1 for existing borrowers. It reduces the cost of a mortgage by 54p a month for each £1,000 of mortgage over a 25-year term. On an average new loan of £8,500 the monthly cost before tax relief will be £81.09, compared with £85.63. For investors the new 6½ per cent rate represents a gross return of 10.31 per cent for a basic-rate taxpayer.

'Seek for the highest' in jubilee year, bishop says

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The nation should turn in Jubilee year from its slide into mediocrity to the pursuit of excellence, the Bishop of London, Dr Ellison, said at an ecumenical service in Westminster Cathedral last night. It was one of the most disquieting features of national life today, he declared, "that we have so largely lost sight of seeking for the highest and best." Dr Ellison added: "The failure to set perfection as the goal to which we as individuals and as a nation aspire, this contempt for excellence, this lack of aspiration, has a disastrous effect upon our morale and our character. It saps initiative, it destroys efficiency, it debases good manners." Widespread disregard for the law, rejection of moral restraints, and the difficulties in the way of parents wishing to make sacrifices so that their children could have a better education were all symptoms of a baleful process at work. Dr Ellison was preaching at a "citizens' jubilee service" attended by Cardinal Basil Hume, Metropolitan Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Archbishop of York, among others. He was speaking at the service on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Church of England in this country. The service was held in Westminster Cathedral, which is the largest church in the world. It was one of the most disquieting features of national life today, he declared, "that we have so largely lost sight of seeking for the highest and best." Dr Ellison added: "The failure to set perfection as the goal to which we as individuals and as a nation aspire, this contempt for excellence, this lack of aspiration, has a disastrous effect upon our morale and our character. It saps initiative, it destroys efficiency, it debases good manners." Widespread disregard for the law, rejection of moral restraints, and the difficulties in the way of parents wishing to make sacrifices so that their children could have a better education were all symptoms of a baleful process at work. Dr Ellison was preaching at a "citizens' jubilee service" attended by Cardinal Basil Hume, Metropolitan Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Archbishop of York, among others. He was speaking at the service on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Church of England in this country.

Inspectors dispute stops Leyland plant

A strike by 200 inspectors over a grading dispute stopped all car production at Leyland's Longbridge plant. It was the second time in three days that unofficial action by a small group of ancillary workers had halted the Mint and Allegro assembly lines. Page 17

CBI profits warning

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told industrialists and retailers that he was not prepared to modify the form of his proposals for minimum profit safeguards. The CBI delegation said that Mr Hattersley underestimated the damage he could do to industrial confidence. Page 17

Fears for hostages

There are growing fears of a violent outcome to the two Dutch sieges. The latest discussions between South Moluccan mediators and the terrorists aboard the hijacked train have failed to break the deadlock and it appears that the authorities may try to free the hostages by force. Page 3

Lifts disrupted: A strike by 1,200 electricians is disrupting maintenance and repair work by the Otis Elevator Company on lifts all over Britain

Ulster protest: A road outside Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital was blocked by staff in a protest against a porter's murder. 3

Geneva: Wider protection for civilians and prisoners-of-war status for guerrillas are among amendments to rules of war signed yesterday. 3

Features, pages 7-11, 14
Alan James asks if Nasser was trapped into the Six-Day War: George Hutchinson on the deeper meaning of the jubilee: Stewart Tiedler on a year after the mercenaries: Saturday Review: Oxford Days, by A. J. Aron. Leader page 15

Letters: On the judges and trade union rights, from Professor J. A. Jolowicz, and others; on the Lib-Lab pact, from Mr William Wallace; and on drama criticism, from Mr William Douglas-Home. Leading articles: The Commonwealth and Rhodesia: When the elms have gone. Arts, page 9

Sheridan Morley talks to American actor E. C. Marshall, of television's *The Defenders*, who makes his debut at the National Theatre on Thursday: David Wade reviews what has been happening on radio. Sport, pages 5 and 6

Racing: Prospects for French Oaks and other races: Golf: Howard Clark leads in Merivale tournament: Rugby Union: Shift test for British Lions: Motor racing: Le Mans prospects: Cycling: Czechoslovakia win 11th stage of Tour of Britain: Tennis: Business News, pages 17-21
Stock markets: The FT index closed 2.5 up at 445.4, a drop of 8.4 since the jubilee break; Gilt scored gains of over £1 on the unchanged MLR and money supply figures. Personal investment and finance: Vera Di Palma answers readers' letters on tax arising from her recent series of articles on filling in the annual tax return; Paul Dobson examines the new credit cards companies' liability to consumers; Margaret Stone talks to the recently appointed chairman of the Building Societies Association.

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Honorary commands for Royal Family

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

To mark her silver jubilee the Queen has appointed herself and other members of the Royal Family to a total of 13 honorary commands in the Army and the RAF, and 19 more in Commonwealth Armed Forces. The Queen becomes the first Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps of Royal Military Police, which celebrates its centenary in August. Honorary air commands are given to the Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal New Zealand Army Ordnance Corps and the Canadian Forces Military Engineers Branch. The Parachute Regiment, the Cheshire Regiment, the Royal Army Educational Corps, the Intelligence Corps and the Royal Pioneer Corps also get a colonel-in-chief for the first time. The Duke of Gloucester becomes the first honorary Colonel of The Royal Mousmire Regiment, Royal Engineers (Militia), the senior unit of the Army Reserve, which is descended from a trained hand raised in Monmouth 400 years ago. The Duchess of Gloucester, as Colonel-in-Chief of the RAEC, receives her first honorary commission. For the first time since the mid-1930s members of the Royal Family have been linked with operational RAF units. RAF Marham, home of the air-to-air refuelling force of Victor tankers, Kinloss, has three squadrons of Nimrod maritime reconnaissance aircraft, Brackley is the home of the tactical weapons unit, Lynnhall is an air transport base, and Comingsby is a fighter station. The appointment of colonel-in-chief is honorary and is usually held for life. Except for the Duke of Wellington, all colonels-in-chief are members of the Royal Family. They are always consulted on matters of regimental tradition. On the death of a colonel-in-chief, the post usually remains vacant until some suitable royal occasion such as a coronation, an investiture or, as in this case, a jubilee. Full list, page 16

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Expert on bird migration dies

Obituary, page 16

Sir Arthur Landsborough Thomson, one of Britain's foremost ornithologists, has died in hospital aged 86. Sir Arthur, who was knighted in 1953, was well known for his researches on bird migration. He was a former chairman of the trustees of London's Natural History Museum, and lived in Southfields, South London.

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Three boys were killed at Bessacarr, Dumfriesshire, yesterday, when their tree house caught fire. Jonathan Elliott, Philip Robertson and Paul Belk had spent the night in the wooden adventure house. They had taken candles and matches with them.

Firework display, page 2

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Correspondent upon Tyne.

A Red Adair, the blow-out expert, yesterday said his company paid \$3.9m for bringing Skofek Bravo 14 well in April.

Adair said he did not want the final figures for his Texas-based work. But he added "I've" charged anything in his life.

"I have two industries," he said, "the oil and the construction industry."

Adair said that at the meeting of the North of Development Councils, he said upon Tyne that "it is an urgent need for a vessel equipped to work in the North Sea oil field."

Adair said that such a boat cost about £30m and was manned by a percentage of experts. Operators might be about 100.

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By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Some Government is seeking to set minimum standards for the basic information about schools which local authorities make available to parents.

A draft circular has been sent to local authorities, teachers' associations, and parents' groups listing 19 items the Government believes should be made available, including the teaching methods used, and the provision for religious education and requirements concerning school uniforms.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, thinks it is essential that parents should have easy access to the sort of information that will enable them to choose the right school for their children, help them to understand their children's development, and ease communication between parents and schools.

The suggested information includes: the name, address

New guidance

By a Staff Reporter

In new guidance on the Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, the Equal Opportunities Commission says that while there is no need to invent new job titles, where their job is generally known by an advertised under title with a distinct masculine or feminine form, advertisers must make it clear specifically that the job is open equally to men and women.

The use of m/f to indicate male/female was considered

A fish which has emptied a pond of nearly 3,000 goldfish was trapped yesterday. It was identified as a 10-inch perch when two Southern Water Authority workers, using electric shock equipment, stunned it.

The pond's owner, Mr Alf Leggett, aged 60, of Ickham, near Canterbury, a former newsmen, has put the fish in a separate pond.

Court cases deferred

The hearing of 13 cases at Crown Courts and magistrates' courts in Northampton, Bedford and Cambridge had to be deferred yesterday when Bedford prison officers refused to escort two prisoners to court. The delay was due to a protest about the effects of public spending cuts.

A boy aged 12 was remanded in care until next Monday by a special juvenile court at Luton, Bedfordshire, yesterday, accused of the murder of Tracy Mairs, aged four.

Mr Robert Wood, aged 77, died in a blaze at his home in Chaucer Street, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, yesterday, but his wife aged 84, was rescued by neighbours.

Ten thousand doses of poliomyelitis vaccine were issued yesterday in Stockport, Greater Manchester, where two children have the disease.

Christopher Walker is in the opposition all party over law and policy were highlighted by the disclosure that his candidates are campaigning for the seat against the State Act, bill's main piece of legislation.

It strengthened repeated by the ruling coalition that many of the Opposition are trusted over the issues of Northern Ireland's Provisional IRA.

of the campaign were in a personal advertisement in a local newspaper James Gallagher, a former Sinn Féin deputy and in the marginal Sligo constituency.

Blocked Nurses' hospital

Correspondent

hundred staff at the
nursing hospital, Balke,
road in front of the
road half an hour yes-
in a silent protest
the murder of a hospital
Wednesday. The pre-
USA have admitted
the demonstration there
inter-denominational
service outside the
department where Mr
Tucker, a member of the
officer, Regiment, was
It was attended by
members of the hospital
service was conducted by
Wilbur Gillespie,
of the hospital's chap-
said Mr. Tucker was
a spiritual complex.
American Union of Public
(Nurses) and the
College of Nursing have
concern about security,
Coulthard, regional

The Norman Correspondent
n of Old Master paint-
d by the late Dr. Huns-
d comprising 124 lots
Amsterdam on Thurs-
2, 1904. Eight
record prices were
the work of individual
10 per cent was unsold.
tion was mostly of the
masters of the Dutch
century, decorative
r.
was by Sotheby Mak
at the round Lutheran
almost all the buyers
anonymous but 5 Sotheby's
dealers and collectors
t of the purchases.
very high

The records include "Flowers in a wooden tub" by Paulus van Elster, 800,000 guilders; (estimate 400,000 to 500,000) and "Flowers in a wooden tub" by Paulus van Elster, 800,000 guilders; (estimate 400,000 to 500,000), an early Flemish painting on panel, "The Virgin and Child" addressed by St. Martin, by Pieter de Witte, 750,000 guilders; (estimate 350,000 to 800,000) and "Flowers in a wooden tub" by Paulus van Elster, 800,000 guilders; (estimate 400,000 to 500,000), a Dutch dealer, and an easel-painting by Solomon van Knyff, 800,000 guilders; (estimate 400,000 to 500,000), a Swiss dealer, and "Landscape with a farm among trees" by Jacob van Ruyssdael, 450,000 guilders; (estimate 250,000 to 450,000), or 2174, 117; "Flowers in a glass" by a painting on copper

by Ambrosius Bosschaert at 500,000 guilders (estimate 230,000) to 500,000) or £117,647; "Street Scene" by Jacobus Vrel at 480,000 guilders (estimate 220,000 to 380,000) or £112,941; "Ferry Boat on the London River" by Pieter Claesz at 380,000 guilders (estimate 200,000 to 250,000) or £89,411; to Peter Mitchell, also of London. A varnish sold 38¢ in the Chase. The highest of the 150 bidders estimate 120,000 to 150,000 or £84,705, to an English private collector.

In Zurich Sotheby's were selling "The Sun and Moon Medallion of the aurei of the Roman emperor Claudius II. Gothicus (AD 268-270)" made 80,000 Swiss francs (esti-

total 100,000) or \$16,004; a Roman gold belt dating from the late fourth century AD and weighing 111.8 grams made 60,000 Swiss francs (estimate 100,000) or \$13,950.

In New York on Thursday Dorothy Parke Berner sold American furniture and decorations for a total of \$61,947, with 20 out of 37 lots unsold.

London yesterday a sale of Japanese works of art made \$133,833, with 3 per cent unsold.

A sale of English furniture and carpets in Bond Street made \$41,700, with 10 per cent unsold.

At Berlin yesterday a sale of furniture, stuffed birds and animals made £20,983, with 4 per cent unsold.

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, June 10

The concept of sparing civilians during armed conflict has been strengthened, according to most of the delegates from 97 nations who today signed the final act of the diplomatic conference on development of international humanitarian law in war.

The four annual sessions of the conference—preceded by three years of preparatory work by the International Committee of the Red Cross—have resulted in two new protocols to be added to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions.

While the conventions related to protection for prisoners-of-war, the wounded and populations of occupied areas, the first of the new protocols sets out the rules of combat law for the first time since the 1907 Hague Treaty. It provides for protection of civilians against bombardment.

The second protocol endeavours, less successfully in the general opinion, to establish equivalent rules for non-international armed conflicts, such as insurrection.

The two protocols will be opened for signature on December 11 by the depository state, Switzerland. During the next 10 years the first (102 articles) is likely to be signed by 120 to 130 countries, the

Assen, June 10.—Fears of a violent outcome to Holland's hostage sieges grew today as the Government pondered the failure of a second attempt to mediate with its South Moluccan terrorist opponents.

A Justice Ministry spokesman in The Hague said that a

four-hour talk yesterday between two South Moluccan mediators and the gummen on the hijacked train near here had failed to break the deadlock of charges.

Signs were growing that if all else failed, the authorities might try to free the 51 hostages on the train by force.

Spokesman here said the Government had rejected a request for a suspension of relations with the train hostages to consult them before risking a possible armed assault.

"They were told we share their anxieties, but it is impossible to take them into account," the spokesman is faced with the need to make a decision," the spokesman said.

Mr. Wilhelm de Gaay Fortman, the Interior Minister, was quoted by the Amsterdam newspaper *De Volkskrant* as saying that "solidarity would have been the formula of the Dutch Government of the law, with the lives of the hostages taking second

Dr. Dick Mulder, a psychiatrist and the authorities' main negotiator, spoke for seven minutes on the train for seven minutes at midday by field telephone. Meanwhile, the Government's crisis team, which resumed its discussion in The Hague.—Reuter.

Changes attitude to campaign

From Our Correspondent Madrid, June 10

With Spain's general election less than a week away, the Socialists found well in opinion polls, Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, has broken his promise to avoid active campaigning "on an impromptu" but well photographed handshaking and baby-sitting trip to his home town of Góbernos, near Madrid.

Señor Suárez has mouthed that he would not campaign actively. When, not long afterwards, his picture appeared all over the country on the billboards, he was forced to admit that his campaign manager said that the Prime Minister had meant that he would not make public appearances.

Now a campaign reservation has been made. Madrid newspapers reported today that Señor Suárez will address the nation on radio and television on Monday, the second day of the electoral campaign, the day of the Government's "head of the Government."

from Our Correspondent
June 10
Eighty prisoners held hostage
for a group of prisoners for 15
hours were released early today
after the Justice Ministry
agreed to the prisoners' demand
for transfers to other jails.
Soon afterwards prisoners
were driven out of the jail at
Napoli, in central Italy, bound
for prisons in different parts
of the country.
About 30 prisoners, wielding
sharpened forks and spoons,
captured 14 warders yesterday
morning and locked themselves
into a large room. As time
passed, warders who collapsed

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, June 10

Any lingering hopes that the new EEC law will be allowed back into the waters this year can be abandoned, according to informed assessments here of the latest round of negotiations between the EEC and Iceland which took place yesterday in Reykjavik.

The Icelandic delegation to the talks was led by Mr Elmundur Agnarsson, and Mr Thorbjörn Bjarnason, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Fisheries respectively. The EEC was represented by Mr George Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, for the Council of Ministers, and by Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the European Com-

British fishermen, who have by far the biggest EEC interest in Icelandic waters, have been excluded from the valuable cod fishing grounds lying within Iceland's 200-mile zone since December 1 of last year, when a six-month agreement expired. Under it, 24 trawlers were allowed in.

Ever since there have been hopes, increasingly tenuous, that the Icelandic authorities might be prepared to allow at least some of these trawlers to return to their waters under an interim arrangement pending the conclusion of a new agreement with the EEC on regional fishing rights.

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, June 10

A mysterious telephone call from abroad to a French television station last night by a man claiming to be one of the kidnapers of Signor Luchino Revelli-Beaumont indicated that the threatened killing of the managing director of Fiat-France might be postponed for 48 hours.

The abductors, who seized

Signor Reveli-Beaumont outside his Paris home on April 13, had threatened to kill him at midnight tonight unless the Fiat car company paid a ransom of \$17.5m. The firm refused to pay.

The caller said: "We understand that the ransom might not be paid on Saturday. We therefore grant a delay. Failing payment of the ransom, M. Reveli-Beaumont will be executed on Monday.

In the past six weeks, police have gathered only clues about the kidnappers. All they have to go on are the three "communiqués" sent to French newspapers on May 18 and 25, and on June 6, setting the date for Signor Reveli-Beaumont's execution. The Signor is the Chairman of the Committee for Revolutionary Socialist Unity."

The Fiat company disclosed yesterday what it had always denied, namely that it had been in contact with the kidnappers,

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, June 10

The Swiss are voting this weekend in a referendum on whether to accept government plans for the introduction of value-added tax (VAT).

This would be on a scale ranging from 3 per cent on essentials, such as food and newspapers, to 10 per cent. Hotels and restaurants would be required to add 6 per cent to the bill.

Falangist d

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, June 10

The colourful mural in the middle of Madrid shows three men with top hats representing the left, right and centre.

One is puffing on a cigar and all three are surrounded antedemocratically around a voting urn. By their side a worker ("the Spanish people"), wearing the traditional beret with a spanner in his belt, is sweating profusely as he pulls along a block called economic crisis.

At first sight the mural looks like the work of an extreme left-wing organization expressing cynicism at the "bourgeois elections". Such murals were much in evidence in neighbouring Portugal after its 1974 revolution. In fact it was painted by the Falange in the corner reveal—by the Falange (Auténtica).

The Falange was incorporated into General Franco's only political organization, the National Movement, in 1937. The important work is *Auténtica* (authentic) for this party—which has nothing to do with the Franco regime—claims to be the true heirs of José Antonio Primo de

The revolt, apparently organized by three alleged members of the Red Brigades terrorist group, was intended against conditions in the old jail, a converted medieval castle. It contains 150 prisoners in crowded and primitive conditions and is known as "Spoleto concentration camp."

An association that campaigns for better conditions in prisons said it had already asked for an official inquiry into the "appalling" conditions at Spoleto, but without success.

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, June 10

In Paris for a two-day official visit, said he had come to thank President Giscard d'Estaing for the help France gave his country beginning in April to defeat the Katangese insurgents in Shaba province.

I wanted to tell him of my appreciation for his very concrete support in flying to the aid of Zaire to enable my country to recover its unity and territorial integrity. The danger in Africa is everywhere that Cuban elements are present. In three weeks, at the summit of

ment and Manuel Hedilla later went into exile. It is a complex history, but one which cannot be told in the space of a confusing election. The Falange (Aureñerca) regarded itself as much in opposition to Franco as the Communist Party.

"The difference between us and the National Alliance is that we are not against Franco and we want to see the ideals of José Antonio put into action," Señor Miguel Hedilla said.

Posters around his party's rumbledown office read "The Falange and its political programme at first sight seems like that of a Marxist party: workers' control, agrarian reform, nationalization of banks and public services, and free education.

"The Falange (Aureñerca) and the National Alliance are both putting up candidates in 27 provinces; the first has a budget of only £3,000 and the second not much more. Neither is likely to win any seats, but neither believes in political parties and both are running only because they have no other way of putting across their views.

Weeks more in France

the Organization of African States at Freetown, we shall open the way which leads to peace in Africa.

General Mobutu met the President yesterday, and was entertained to lunch today at the Elysée Palace.

It is likely that French military advisers will be sent to Zaïre under the sort of military agreement France already has with other African countries.

Mr Karl Bond, the Zaïre Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, accusing Russia of designs on Africa, said: "Zaïre and Africa in general feel today closer than ever to Europe."

OVERSEAS

South Africa abandons interim regime for Namibia policy change

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, June 10

An important change of policy in South Africa today abandoned its plan to install an interim Government based on the Turnhalle conference in Namibia (South-West Africa) and announced instead that an Administrator-General would be appointed to rule the territory until a Constituent Assembly is elected.

The announcement came at the end of three days of talks in Cape Town between the five-nation Western "contact group" and the South African Government. The move was immediately welcomed by the group whose spokesman said the appointment of an administrator-general could be helpful towards achieving an internationally acceptable solution.

In the meantime Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, announced that he will introduce legislation next week enabling Dr Bredenkamp, the head of state, to make laws in the territory. The Bill provides for the President to appoint an Administrator-General in Windhoek, the capital.

Mr Vorster did not indicate who might be given the appointment although it is expected to go to a South African. He would be closely advised by a United Nations-appointed Secretary-General during the preparation for and holding of free elections supervised by the United Nations. These could take place later this year.

The abandonment of proposals for establishing an interim authority took place after it became clear that it was not going to be possible to bridge the gap between the Western view of how such an authority should be constituted and the suggestions put forward by the Turnhalle representatives. The delegation from the Turnhalle was present in Cape Town for consultations with the South African Government but it did not have direct links with the "contact group".

Earlier today the Turnhalle delegation issued a statement saying that the proposals by a central administrative authority were unacceptable. They therefore requested the South African Government to drop the idea of setting up such an authority and appoint an Administrator-General instead.

However, a statement issued on behalf of the five by Mr Don McHenry, the senior American delegate, said that the Turn-

halle's own proposal was unacceptable because it was "predominantly ethnic, lacked neutrality and appeared to prejudice the outcome of free elections." As one diplomat commented: "It was just the Turnhalle by another name."

The Western group also scotched the suggestion that the idea of an Administrator-General had come from the Turnhalle side. Such a suggestion had been discussed when Western representatives met the South African Government in Cape Town last April.

After returning to Windhoek tonight, Turnhalle delegates urged South Africa and the group powers to organize free elections within the next six months if possible.

Shorn of its diplomatic language, it is clear from today's announcement that South Africa and more especially the Turnhalle, have made substantial compromises in the face of concerned Western pressure. Not only has the interim government idea, through which the Turnhalle hoped to establish its authority throughout the territory, been dropped but there has also been acceptance by the South Africans that the United Nations should play a role during the elections.

For their part, the Western countries have been prepared to soft-pedal on Swapo and the United Nations' demand for an immediate South African withdrawal from the territory.

They appear to have accepted that a troop withdrawal should be agreed and orderly entry of South Africa would maintain its presence in Namibia until an independent Government requested its withdrawal.

It remains to be seen whether the Western group can now gain United Nations and Swapo acceptance of the new proposals.

According to diplomatic sources, some progress was also made about the release of political prisoners.

Another point of contention which has still to be resolved is the question of Walvis Bay, the South African enclave, in which is situated Namibia's only deepwater port.

Mr Vorster said the legislation to be introduced next week would include the administration of Walvis Bay. South Africa has made it clear it will not give up the strategically important port. Swapo insists it is an integral part of Namibian territory.

Some progress in Pakistan political talks

Rawalpindi, June 10.—Talks between the Government and the Opposition today removed some obstacles to a solution of Pakistan's three-month political crisis over alleged election rigging.

"We have moved forward," Maulana Kausar Niazi, Minister for Religious Affairs and one of Mr Bhutto's three-man negotiating team, said.

A joint statement after the fifth round of talks said the two sides had resolved some of the differences, but gave no details. It said another meeting would be held on Sunday after separate consultations.

A settlement had been expected this week, but the talks ran into difficulties yesterday on the mechanics of holding another general election. Opposition sources said the main differences concerned safeguards demanded by the nine-party Pakistan National Alliance for a free election.—Reuter.

Ontario Premier returned to power without majority

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, June 10

For the second time in a row the voters of Ontario's largest province, have elected a minority Conservative government.

The Tories, led by Mr William Davis, the Premier, captured 58 seats in yesterday's provincial general election, a gain of seven seats but still five fewer than they needed for an overall majority in the 125-seat legislature.

The Liberals won 34 seats, displacing the New Democratic Party as the official opposition, while the socialist NDP got 33.

While holding on to power, Mr Davis failed in his gamble to win back the majority which the Conservatives lost in the 1975 election.

The Premier called the election after the Government had been defeated on a relatively minor issue. He was influenced to some extent by opinion polls which suggested a tide of public support running in his favour. He also sought to take advantage

of the national unity issue, calculating that the voters of the province that has gained most from Canadian confederation would give the Conservatives a strong mandate to deal with the threat of Quebec separatism.

The outcome could affect the timing of a federal election. Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, who has also been doing extremely well in the opinion polls, is under pressure from some of his advisers to call an election this year on the unity issue.

The implicit rebuff by voters to Mr Davis may stiffen the Prime Minister's resistance to the idea of an early election. He will not forget that the election which brought the Parti Quebecois to power in Quebec last November was called by Mr Robert Bourassa, the Liberal Premier, two years before the expiry of his mandate.

Standings in the Ontario legislature after the 1975 election were: Conservatives 51; NDP 38; Liberals 36.

Americans with microfilm held in Russia

Moscow, June 10.—Soviet police detained an American couple at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on May 29 after finding subversive literature in their luggage and microfilm in their shoes. The Government newspaper Izvestia said today.

The newspaper said Harold and Eileen Greenberg were detained after gathering anti-Soviet information.

The American embassy here said the couple had since returned to the United States.—Reuter.

Plain of rubble that once was Tangshan

From Peter Griffiths
Tangshan, June 10

Eleven months ago the world's worst earthquake for centuries killed three quarters of a million people in and around this northern Chinese city, now a vast plain of rubble.

With the first foreign correspondents to view the ruins, I travelled to Tangshan today by train from Peking, 100 miles away.

Approaching the city, one can see scores of rebuilt villages and bridges, row upon row of freshly planted rice, burial mounds and occasional piles of rubble dotting the fields. It does little to prepare the travel-

Soweto call for mourning in memory of riots dead

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, June 10

The influential Soweto Students' Representative Council has called on the black population of South Africa to observe June 16, the first anniversary of the outbreak of the Soweto riots, as a holiday to commemorate those who died during the unrest. A total of 618 lives were lost during last year's upheavals which spread to black townships right across the country.

A pamphlet issued by the students also called for a suspension of all forms of entertainment between June 16 and June 19 to mark the anniversary of what has been designated as "Students Day" and urged inhabitants to observe a period of silence between the early hours of 9 am and 11 am on Thursday. The pamphlet emphasized that violence should be avoided.

Other proposals made by the students include the closure of schools (filled with thousands of pupils) during the whole of next week, the holding of prayer meetings, the wearing of black as a sign of mourning and the closure of Soweto shops.

The inhabitants of single men's hostels, some of whom turned against the students last year, were asked to identify themselves with the rest of Soweto residents in a show of solidarity.

Soweto people who were questioned about the students' proposals today believed they would be widely supported. They were uncertain, however, how many people would be prepared to put their jobs at risk by observing a holiday on June 16. The students' council has suggested that employers allow their black employees to work extra hours this weekend so they can take next Thursday off.

The mood in Soweto remains highly volatile. Late yesterday there was a further outbreak of violence when students from Orlando High School stoned vehicles belonging to the West Rand Bantu Administration Board. Police fired into the air to disperse the crowd.

There was still an air of tension when I visited a school today. Some students were already leaving by mid-morning because they feared the police would return to make arrests. When two heavily protected police vehicles drove by, some of the students jeered and gave black power salutes. When a colleague tried to take photographs, some students yelled abuse.

At Mouton Isaacson School, where the upheaval first began last year, the mood was more relaxed. But within minutes of students starting to talk to me and some colleagues, two police vans containing heavily armed black policemen arrived and tried to make the students move away.

Shortly afterwards Brigadier Jan Visser, the Soweto police chief, arrived at the school and managed to diffuse what looked like becoming an explosive situation.

In a statement today Brigadier Visser said the police would not hesitate to suppress violence if it broke out during next week's period of mourning. He added that police would take action against pupils who continued to hold meetings at schools to promote unrest. However he added that in an effort to promote goodwill his men would not enter school grounds unless it was necessary.

A black American poet and a white American diplomat were briefly detained in Soweto today while visiting Morris Jacobson School. The poet, Mr Michael Harper, had been there to give a poetry reading. He and Mr William "Jake" Jacobson, head of the United States Information Service office in Johannesburg, were questioned by a CID officer and released after an hour.

Annenberg gift of \$2m to museum

Philadelphia, June 10.—Mr Walter Annenberg, the American ambassador to Britain, and his wife are to give \$2m (£1.18m) to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, according to Mr Robert Wood, the museum director.

He said that the gift, made through a family charitable organization, the Annenberg Fund, is one of the largest donations ever made to the museum. Mr Annenberg is a publisher.

Today the Commonwealth leaders attend the Trooping the Colour before flying up to Glenelg in Scotland for a weekend of relaxed talking. One of the subjects likely to be discussed is sporting contacts with South Africa. There is strong criticism of New Zealand's attitude in not preventing individual sportsmen from competing against South Africans.

Leading article, page 15

Two Athens octuplets die

Athens, June 10.—All eight children born two days ago to a young Greek woman, Mrs Clio Zerbili, have died. Five died a few hours after the sixth died yesterday and the remaining two this morning.—Reuter.



Mrs Callaghan (left) showing Mrs Kaunda and Lady Khama, the wives of the Zambian and Botswana presidents, round Chequers yesterday.

Energy fund proposed by Jamaican Premier

By Our Special Correspondents

When relations between the developed and developing countries were discussed at the Commonwealth conference yesterday, Mr Michael Manley, the Jamaican Prime Minister, called for support for the continuation of the North-South dialogue within a reformed and restructured United Nations.

He also urged the Commonwealth as a whole to support his proposal for the creation of a special fund of \$5,000m a year for five years for investment in the development of new sources of energy. The money should be provided by the oil-producing and industrialized countries.

Mr Manley first put forward the proposal last week in Paris at the final and unsuccessful session of the conference on international economic cooperation. He pointed out yesterday that the oil reserves were likely to be exhausted shortly after the turn of the century: there were 25 years at most to find alternative supplies.

Referring to the press conference to the north-South dialogue, Mr Manley hoped the Commonwealth leaders would make a concerted effort to create changes in the present structure and workings of the United Nations. The aim should be to improve the mechanisms for negotiating

Mr Manley felt a programme of public education was needed. The Western housewife must be persuaded that a better deal for the world's poor did not involve damaging her interests. There was a mutuality of interest. But for some people it was a question of how to raise the living standards of the world's poor, but of whether they would be alive next year.

Mr Manley said that 15 African were in death row, and it was incumbent on Britain to stop them being hanged.

The head of the Nigerian delegation, Brigadier Shehu Yar Adua, achieved the dubious distinction of becoming the first African leader to criticize Mr Amin of Uganda as a "murderer" during the meeting. He did not think it right to hold a press conference, that any one member of the Commonwealth should be a question of how to raise the living standards of the world's poor, but of whether they would be alive next year.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr Nkomo said that 15 African were in death row, and it was incumbent on Britain to stop them being hanged.

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Conference notebook by Michael Leapman

Publicity-wise leaders stoke the Amin obsession of the media

The BBC television news on Thursday night announced that discussion of President Amin's regime in Uganda had dominated that day's proceedings at the Commonwealth conference. In fact the subject was not mentioned at the conference at all. What was dominated was the press coverage, meetings and interviews held outside the conference chamber.

I have been to only one press conference this week at which the speaker has not been asked what he thinks of President Amin. The Commonwealth leaders, who are for the most part perceptive people, have seen that the sure way of getting air time on television and space in newspapers is to make the speaker say what the media want to hear.

It is the radio and television reporters, I think, who suffer worst from the Amin obsession: but the quality of the press coverage is what is most worrying here. One veteran Commonwealth correspondent wondered why more attention had not been paid to the opening speech of President Kaunda of Zambia in which he praised our Queen for expanding the terms for presiding over the age of decolonization.

If he said the same thing about the Russians it would be all over the Russian press, the correspondent observed. "And if he had attacked the Queen in due papers would have gone to town on it." Dr indeed, if he had, warned of a Rhodesian bloodbath, as he did the next day with predictably productive results in terms of column inches.

A leader who failed to respond to the ritual question about Amin was Major-General Ziaur Rahman, President of Bangladesh. When he was asked yesterday he replied: "Sincerely speaking, I do not have all the information I need to make a judgement."

The reply was quite in character with the rest of his press conference, which was possibly the least informative I have ever attended. A quiet-spoken man, with a military moustache and a terse manner, the mystery was why he had asked to meet the press at all. He said he hoped the confer-

ence would persuade rich nations to give more to the poor: that the people of Bangladesh should work harder; and that he achieved a 99 per cent "yes" vote in his recent referendum by getting the women out to the polls. Of the Indo-Bangladesh Treaty he said: "It's just there. It doesn't bother us." Asked about attacks on Bangladesh residents in Britain, he replied: "I don't think there's really much to worry about." And about insurgency in the Chittagong Hill tracts: "There is none."

This is the last Commonwealth conference whose official spokesman will be Nicholas Harman, the former star television interviewer. Next month he leaves his job as head of publicity at the Commonwealth Secretariat after two years and a bit. His parting advice to me: "Never get yourself a job where you have to make out a rota for photographers"—advice which I shall heed with-out difficulty.

This conference will be memorable for a different reason: for the role of his aides, Patsy Robertson, the popular Jamaican who has been the Secretariat's press officer since it was established in 1965. She had a baby son yesterday morning—her third child.

She had been working at Lancaster House until 9 pm on Thursday and had the baby in Middlesex Hospital less than 12 hours later. She had hoped that it might restrain itself until the conference was over, but at that age they are inconsiderate creatures. At least she should not be short of apt names.

He referred to the British refusal to allow President Amin to attend the conference and said: "If the African people are really serious about their freedom they should leave the racist organization of Anglo-Saxon nations."

Mr Bhutto said President Amin was a clown who had not left the Commonwealth when refused entry to Britain for the conference.

The Prime Minister said his Government would be weighing Pakistan's membership in Cento (the Central Treaty Organization) indicating that if Pakistan as ally and Cento member was not treated well by the United States Government it might withdraw.

He called on the Opposition, which in its election manifesto declared it would leave Cento to join the Government in deciding the issue.

Moscow sees difficulties in repairing Cairo links

Moscow, June 10.—Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, said today that restoring normal relations between Egypt and Russia "is no simple matter."

Instead, he said, "it will take persistent mutual efforts, readiness for practical constructive steps."

Mr Gromyko was speaking at a lunch for Mr Ismail Fahmy, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, who has been taking part in the talks in Moscow to ease the strains in Soviet-Egyptian relations.

Earlier today, Mr Fahmy met Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader. Tass, the Soviet news agency, described the talks as "useful exchange of views."

However, the tone of Mr Gromyko's remarks at the subsequent lunch appeared to indicate that serious problems in Soviet-Egyptian relations—such as Egypt's \$2,355m debt to Russia—were not fully resolved.

Mr Gromyko told Mr Fahmy that "we stand for good, more over friendly cooperation with Egypt in the political, economic and other spheres."

Referring to Mr Brezhnev's talk with Mr Fahmy, the Soviet minister said: "I would like to emphasize especially the richness and firmness of this talk for the further development of relations between the Soviet Union and Egypt."

Mr Gromyko observed that the main goal of the talks was "normalizing Soviet-Egyptian relations, returning them into the natural channel of friendship and cooperation."

Soviet-Egyptian relations have been severely strained since President Sadat revoked a friendship treaty with Moscow 15 months ago.

Egypt failed to make good any of its losses incurred during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war and that Moscow has refused to supply it with spare parts for its arsenal of Soviet-built weapons.

According to western observers, Moscow may be prepared to make concessions to Egypt in return for Cairo's support of Soviet efforts to reconvene the Middle East peace conference in Geneva.

Mr Fahmy suggested in his speech that Cairo would be prepared to do this, but at the same time, he made it clear that Egypt was determined to stay independent of Moscow or Washington.

Yesterday the two foreign ministers held four-hour talks, which examined Palestinian participation at Geneva and the Middle East situation after the signing of the Camp David accords.

Mr Fahmy's visit is his first here for two years. He arrived on Wednesday on a visit originally intended to last 48 hours. He is now due to leave for Cairo tomorrow.—AP, Reuter, Agence France-Press.

Ugandan leader called a stooge

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, June 10

Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister, today described President Amin of Uganda as a "stooge" for having stomachached insults from Britain which prevented him from attending the Commonwealth conference in London.

Speaking in the National Assembly Mr Bhutto said no self-respecting people could accept stooges as heads of government. The days of stooges in the Third World were over, he said.

He referred to the British refusal to allow President Amin to attend the conference and said: "If the African people are really serious about their freedom they should leave the racist organization of Anglo-Saxon nations."

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Financier told he must leave Costa Rica

From Peter Strafford
New York, June 10

Mr Robert Vesco, American financier accused of embezzling more than \$20m from Overseas Investment, was told today that he must leave Costa Rica, where he has taken refuge since 1972.

The announcement was by President Daniel who said that he had Vesco of his decision days ago. "I do not," he said, "should leave hurriedly" dent October added.

Mr Vesco is wanted by the United States, not just because of an illegal election which he is alleged to have made to President Nixon's election campaign in 1972, but also because of making a payment of \$100,000 to the Nixon Administration to influence an election of his affairs.

The presence of Mr Vesco in Costa Rica was a recent publicity when Mr F. Carer, the President, visited the country.

Called the "Women's League" sent her a letter which she accused the States of deliberate violence in its efforts to extradite him.

There has been some opposition in Costa Rica being allowed to stay. Vesco has been heavily criticised and President Oduber, election campaign, it accused his predecessor, José Figueres, of influencing by Mr Vesco.

Since then, President himself has been receiving campaign contributions from Mr Vesco.

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Clark takes a lead of one shot into last round of Martini event

ne Maier
Clark's 13-yr putt from
edge of the home green
up against the
but it duly dropped
removed the pin to give
Yorkshire professional
a one-shot lead on 215
to the last round of the
Martini golf tournament at
rie yesterday. Tommy
Stanton, who had been
a shot behind.

only on Thursday that
Clark had replaced
up of the leader board,
ing that Clark was among
super professionals who
a bit to learn in the
sping everything together
the event. So it will be
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ron says. Clark is tech-
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practice with his wedge,
at the moment a lovely
hand that the green is
2nd, for example, he
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at the 153rd yard, the
m 20 yards to four feet.

st of yesterday afternoon
had seemed destined to
the end of round three
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urnament after 11 holes,
as the clubhouse Bernard
who had finished the
under par, was predict-
the Englishman would
under.

started to go wrong for
it the 12th when a four-
he putt slipped past the
edge-hole putt went in
y the next. Clark
had another disappoint-
ment a chip which had
right finished on the
from the hole. He missed
it then proceeded to take
its on the next green.
te trouble began to spread
as of his game. Two
the shot at the 16th.

rgowrie scores after three rounds

H. Clark, 69, 70, 70, 109	F. Connolly (Australia), 70, 70, 73, 113
R. B. 69, 71, 71, 111	J. O'Hara (Ireland), 71, 71, 71, 113
G. 69, 71, 71, 111	J. C. 71, 71, 71, 113
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SPORT

Rowing

Kolbe says that he is going to retire

From Jim Railton
Ratzeburg, June 10

Peter-Michael Kolbe (West Germany), the 1975 European and 1975 world champion in single sculls, announced today that he will retire after the Ratzeburg Regatta this weekend. This follows his surprise defeat in the Olympic Regatta in Montreal when he finished second to the "Flyin' Fish" Perdi Karppinen, of Finland. Since that disastrous result Kolbe has won at Mannheim to begin his 1977 season but two weeks ago, suffering from a back injury, he lost to Timothy Crooks, of Britain. Kolbe complained at the time that he suffered from a back injury. Kolbe, who won the West German championship of the year award ahead of Franz Beckenbauer, the footballer, last year, is now in 1975 on an advantageous lane in the regatta. He won the European title in 1974 and 1975. In 1975 he won the European title. The regatta was abandoned the single sculls event — the same of the loser — and won a bronze medal in coxed pairs. In 1975 he won the world championship on his return in single sculls.

But, at least, Britain has been ahead over Kolbe's intentions in psychological terms with the withdrawal of Crooks from this weekend's regatta. Crooks is by no means a newcomer to international sport with a fifth place in the double sculls in the 1972 Munich Olympic Regatta and a silver medal in the 1974 international rowing. Crooks, too, is playing it cool, in what after all must be described as a pure psychological game.

The entries here seem to indicate something of a menopause in international rowing following the Olympic regatta in Montreal. Britain has entered almost 20 crews for each day of the two-day regatta. For any hope of a reasonable chance in the international championships, the British must be in the top three in the first round. Particular attention will focus on the British national elite designated here who, among others, will meet an Irish club crew. The British Eight, if they are to continue in their present form, will be the first to start well away tomorrow.

Stroke's mishap causes a big pile-up

Chaos reigned in the third division of the Mays yesterday after Magdalene II's stroke came off his seat after three strokes. The Magdalene boat steered broadside on to St. Catharine's II, caught them while still doing their start. In all, 12 boats piled into one another, with only Queens II escaping. Christ II was slightly injured. The division resumed later.

In the first division, Jesus stopped Lady's progress a little. Holt, Pembroke again paddling firm at the top.

JUNE									
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my reading was at
1 remember being
by Dr. Priestley
is our, and I had
a eulion for Compton
e's *Vested Fire*, a
to the foreign colony
before and during the
of a war. One of
was modelled on
Douglas, whose
for the stories told
and for his attack
lawrence, but when I
read *South Wind* I
heavy going I much
Siegle's *Song of the
Fox-hunting* as
as it had to do with
in my own experi-
sequel *Memoirs*
of the *Officer*, which
was to appear at
Aurora, from *Ram-
Quiet on the Western*
which I shared the
enthusiasm, they were
zoobiographical. The
I most enjoyed was
Crawley's *Goodbye to
Brave*, like all his
books, instantly
to. Though it is now
s since I last read it,
ory of it is still vivid.

of course of reading that
pleasure did not. I
tract from my work.
it prevent me from
the time for it.
I seemed to be time for
One of the
differences between
graduates of my
and those of the
is that, whatever
of the faculty
tended to have more
minutiae of a leisure
the attitudes were fos-
the material advan-
we enjoyed, not only
session of our sets of
also in the
Command. Ser-
ford are known as
it there was in Chris-
that time a scum
out's boy to every
My scout was an
man called Milligan,
and as he liked to
served us with an
rememory. We held it
then against him
to be a scout to
perquisites a share
division of coal. The
y was Fred Wheatley,
to be my scout as
when I held a Fel-
where just after the
is now the head scout
noony's. I suspect that
the heavy work
mainly of the super-
y was scolded, was done
on Milligan-called us
mornings, brought us
water for shaving,
least a show of clean

Unless one had leave to be away, which was not easily granted, one was supposed to spend every night in College during term. Since the terms were only eight weeks long, this was the great temptation. I was occasionally given leave of absence for the night in order to dine at the Inner Temple. It was necessary to eat a certain number of these dinners in order to be admitted to the House of Commons, and quite usual to fulfil this requirement before one began any actual study of the law. As it turned out, I never did begin the study of the law, but I acquired a few Bar-dinner connections. They were not altogether unprofitable, and I was grateful in this instance, since I could get through them quickly and so have more time to spend with Renéé afterwards. Otherwise I relied on the visiting friends of my father, who did quite frequently. In my first year, I seldom came to London in the daytime, though I should not have broken any rule in doing so. There was a train from Oxford to London, and I was a frequent user of the "furlougher," which could normally be relied on to reach Oxford in time for everyone to be safely back in College by midnight. The extra expense was not great. I was allowed to go to Church with a pleasant feeling of security when the train was late.

The naming of this train is not actually whether or not it was faster than the others, but that those who liked girls were expected to go to London to find them. At that time Oxford society was still almost wholly masculine. Not only did the men very greatly outnumber the women, but they did still do, but there was little social contact between them. One or two of the women undergraduates were much sought after, and they were frequently requested in the women's colleges. Large parties were given to which no women were invited, and when they were present in any considerable number it was mostly because of men came from outside Oxford. In the performances which were put on by the Oxford University Dramatic Society the female parts were played, not, as they now would be, by amateurs, but by professional actresses. This disdain for the women undergraduates was due partly to snobbery, since it was still not the custom for upper-class girls to get to the theatre, and partly to a male dislike for female blue stockings; it being harder for women to get into Oxford, because of the smaller number of places available to them, they had become accustomed to take their work more seriously and did not mind showing in the men that they were mostly trained for the public schools to make a show of indifference, however hard they might actually be working. But the main reason lay in the men's educational upbringing. Having spent so much of their time as boarders in an exclusively masculine atmosphere, they were very few of them who had had any sexual experience and such experience as they might have had

An esoteric group of which I became a member was the "White Rose Society," which was nominally a small company of Jacobites. We dined together once a term in full evening dress with white roses in our buttonholes, and drank the health of "The King

over the water." We possessed a sword, said to have been blessed by the Pope, which our secretary was once evidently to have paraded. The real mistake was made the mistake of making a genuine Jacobite; who bored us so much that our meetings were discontinued. I do not know if the society has ever been revived.

The colleges also had their own societies, of varying degrees of smartness and frivolity. Among those to which I belonged at Christ Church was the "Society of Antiquaries," which demanded a fairly high standard of contributions from its members, and a play-reading society which concentrated on the contemporary theatre. I remember taking part in a reading of the *Comedies of Moliere*. The *Circle* and thinking it, as it still do, a remarkably difficult and engaging piece of work. A few colleges had philosophical societies, but the main outlets for fledgling philosophers were the "Societies of Natural Philosophy," named after the famous Master of Balliol who had at one time been a tutor in philosophy, though his contribution to the subject seems to have been limited to a ponderous treatise on the "Wonders of Plato," his introductions to the several dialogues, the *Phæ-*

little more than summarize their arguments. In recent years the Jowett Society has served mainly as a means for undergraduates to supplement their knowledge by lectures and debates between dons, but at that time, though outside speakers were occasionally invited, most of the papers were presented, and the discussions opened, by the junior members themselves. Any undergraduate could become a member, and payment of a small subscription, by attending a meeting as a guest and taking part in the discussion. Once I had been admitted to the society, I attended its meetings regularly and eventually became its secretary.

An outside speaker was offered to address the Society while I was secretary was J. W. Dunne, author of two books, *An Experiment with Time* and *The Serial Universe* which attracted a great deal of attention in their day. They were not, as is usually the case with things, for the attraction in the ordinary time-sequence of the events in at least one of J. B. Priestley's plays. It was part of Dunne's theory that one could make excursions into the future and his grounds for assuming this was that it actually happened in dreams. Strangely

from the premise that dreams are frequently pre-cognitive, he illogically argued that the events which they forecast must be somehow predestined. His reason for wishing to address the Jowett Society was not, however, to test the force of his argument but to shore up its premises. The Society for Psychical Research had supplied him with a group of subjects who recorded their dreams for him but the result of the experiment had been negative. The dreams could not be plausibly interpreted as foretelling any future events, but not discouraged. He accounted for the negative result by the fact that the subjects supplied to him had been elderly. "Age," he said, "lives in the past." And so he turned to Oxford. And so he turned to Oxford for recruits. I was happy to invite him and organized a meeting at which alone was present. I had forgotten to send out any notices and so forgot to invite anyone and arrived with better fortune than Mr Dume. explained his theory to a sceptical but friendly audience. He advised us that the best way to keep pure our dreams was to record them on one side of a sheet of paper and start recording them again as soon as we awoke, and said

that if we followed this method we should soon remember what we would take up several hours to write it all down. Since it seemed to me that this would interfere unduly with my work, I decided to let this consist of dreamers. But agreed to collect their reports and inform Mr Dumas if any of the dreams appeared have been pre-cognitive. In spite of the young dreamers' disavowal, the experiments again had a negative result. It is true that Andrew Wordsworth dreamed of making love to a girl to whom he subsequently married, but this was too much in the natural order of things for anyone to count it as significant.

It was through the lower Somersetshire to London, Isiah, or as his friends there called him, Shaya Berlin. We already had a slight connexion in that his father, who came from the same district, was a timber-trader and knew both my father and my father's partner Mr Beck, but although we had known of each other through the Becks, we had never met. Isiah and I went to school at St Paul's and he came up to Oxford a year ahead of me as a classical scholar at Corpus. Andrew was called to him to leave the law, and he came to London, and at a meeting of the Jovettian Society was being held in his rooms, but either we had been misinformed, or the venue of the meeting had been changed and we found that Jovettian had introduced ourselves, we entered into conversation, I can be said of Isiah as Dr Johnson said of Burke that he is "such a man, that if you meet him first in the street where you were stopped by a drove of oxen and you and he stepped aside to make shelter but for five minutes, he'd talk to you half an hour." First I was surprised you would say, this is an extraordinary man." On this occasion, we had hardly begun talking before I said to Andrew, "Let's not go to this meeting. This man is much more interesting than anything to be treated as if he had been put on show, Isiah hustled us away to the meeting, but this was the beginning of a friendship that has lasted for over 40

One of the things that first brought us together was our common interest in philosophy. This is an interest that we no longer share, since Isaiah was preoccupied with the problems of logician H. M. Sheffer, in the early 1940s, that the subject had developed to a point where it required a mastery of mathematical logic which was not shared by his younger friend, even when he chose to cultivate the lush field of political theory. His approach to philosophy had indeed always been more eclectic than mine and more critical than destructive. His own frequent delusions, his part was usually to find unassailable objections to the extravagant theories that advanced. He once described me to a common friend as having "a good deal of common sense, and I think it is true that within its narrower range my intellect is the more incisive." On the other hand, he has always had the reader wit, the ability to see upon the surface the greater breadth of learning. The difference in the working of our minds is matched by a difference in temperament, which has some of its roots in our friendship. I am more resilient, more reckless and more intolerant; he is more mature, more expansive and more responsible. At times he has been shocked by my senseless self-indulgence. I have some times wished that he were more revolutionary in spirit, I credit us both with a strong sense of duty, but I have found myself in rather different ways.

It was a feature of Isaiah's active imagination that he liked to identify his friends with the larger characters in fiction. He often seemed to me that he judged them more by the qualities of the counterparts whom he had found for them than by those which they actually had. I remember about the time that I met him that I discovered the novels and essays of Stendhal and was so impressed with them that he pretended to be Stendhal's hero never read anything else. This helped him to see me as Juliette Sorel. If I had to be identified with any of Stendhal's characters, this indeed would be one that I should have chosen; but while I found the comparison flattering in some ways, I thought that it overestimated both the romantic strain in me and the extent of my literary ambitions. Though it might have been less plausible, I should have preferred to be identified with Voltaire.

Isaiah never believed that I enjoyed the distinction of having been the one to introduce Isaiah Berzin to Maurice Bowra, but I was mistaken. On the occasion of which I was thinking, whenever they both came to a dinner party in my house, I told Andrew and I had invited those whom we agreed to be the most brilliant people that we knew. I am assured by Isaiah that they already knew one another. I met Maurice in my first term at Oxford. He knew me and came to call on Andrew when I happened to be there. Not long afterwards he asked me to a dinner party in his rooms at Wadham, of which he was then Dean. I was very much struck by the quality of his talk that he provided, so that I passed most of the evening in a kind of stu-

por. Not surprisingly, it was some time before I was asked again. Later, when I had acquired more confidence, he was able to contribute enough to the conversation to be fairly welcome to him as a guest. This was not so difficult as it first seemed to me, since his intellectual vitality was infectious. Part of his brilliance as a talker lay in his power to stimulate others to flights of wit and fancy of which they would not ordinarily have been capable.

Maurice was not the only undergraduate but he was by far the most interesting. He was just over thirty years of age when I first knew him, short and sturdy, with a massive nose, small watchful eyes, and a resonant voice. He delivered words like a blacksmith's hammer. At Cheltenham where he was known as "Mossey" Bovra, he had earned distinction, not only as a classical scholar, but as a runner, football player, and one could imagine him, grumming, going to good effect. His experiences in the war, where he had served for a year in France as an artillery officer, had done little to impress him, but he did not care to talk about them. Occasionally he hinted that it was far more awful than we could imagine. As an undergraduate at Keble College, he had been a friend of Joseph, who stifled whatever taste he might have developed for philosophy. His wit was largely of the order of Oscar Wilde's "Work is the curse of the thinking man's life," an assertion which, as a student of mathematics, he spoke of some- times as the sort of man who would give you a stab in the front and of a girl who was clinging to her lover as a mouse at the tail. He described Evelyn Waugh's trilogy of war novels as "the Waugh to end of Waugh" and when E. M. Forster, who had been a pacifist, was preferred to him for the Regius Professorship of Greek, he responded with "What did you do, the Greeks? We don't do it." The delay in the appearance of the coffin at the funeral of Humphrey Sumner, who had been Warden of All Souls, elicited from Maurice "Summer is summer in." I do not know whether he gave any thought to his criticism, but it was always produced with an air of spontaneity and made more effective by his style of utterance and the forceful personality that went with it. He was like Dr. Johnson, of whom Boswell's noble friend Lord Poughkeepsie said, "I am remembering that his saying "would not appear so extraordinary, were it not for his bow-wow way." In his love of gossip, Maurice did not spare his friends, but his satire was good-natured and a sign of his satisfaction of their reality. If he thought that they had behaved disloyal to him, or had behaved in a manner of which he disapproved, he could be very savage and unrelenting. Otherwise he was kind and tried to give sound advice. While he was not a meticulous scholar, the strength of his sympathy for the ancient Greeks relieved the pity with which he wrote about them. He read many Greek books and had a good feeling for much of the poetry that was written in them, but for the most part the style of his published criticism is oddly pedestrian. His memoirs are lively, but, unexpectedly, not so good. He had a sense of parody, which he exercised in composing lampoons. He was rightly proud of these verses and read them aloud to a chosen few, of whom I was one. He is in judging only by the excerpts which only have survived.

As this shows, I was never very close to Maurice, though we were always on good terms with one another. He thought me a bit of a gold digger, as his memoirs are full of references to him as a "young genius," but I had the impression that he approved of me more than he liked me. We got on well enough in college, but after we were alone together there was a feeling of unease.

Behind his bravura there was a sense of insecurity and there were only a few people with whom he felt comfortable without guard. He had affairs with women, including at least one whom he wished to marry, but he was also homosexual and the homosexual strain in him was stronger than it has ever been partly for this reason, that he sought the company of undergraduates, whether or not they shared this sexual taste. Nowadays the younger generation usually repels such service, even if they had the means, to entertain on the scale that Maurice and some others used to do, but this is not the only factor.

The Oxford system of education also suffered from the destruction in the number of bachelors, who take an interest in the undergraduates which extends beyond the supervision of their work. No doubt there was a touch of snobbery in the pride which we took in being favoured by Maurice's notice.

I am sure that no one other than one that the more conventional among our seniors were happy to see us falling; but he was a strongly civilizing influence even on those who belonged only to the outer circle of his friends.

@ A. J. Ayer, 1977.
An extract from Part of My
Autobiography written at Mon-
day by Collins (65.55). It
is reviewed on Thursday's Book
Page by Kathleen Norr.

Oxford days

By A. J. Ayer



characters embodied
likes of conformity,
independent-minded
like Harold Innocent's
housemaster on the bor-
ers, and Antony Brown's
academician head-
master in the French
school on which we
could say that the re-
nunc monopocrene, but the
reunings combine abso-
lute judgment with rail-
roaders between yea-
sides and the ques-
tion in code in the French
school by John Ben-
rardising journalist, Susan
radiant, disappointed
and the other mem-
bers of the French
school exploring the
code, the play and pro-
fessors the frustrations
present in an Indian
school, the generous and job-
less school.

the very to the
credit that they leave
a audience to identify
the. The direction is
in. In the presence of
up's old teacher, who
rigorous, impartial,
loyalty that the
the play springs to life
and that that action
ly, independent with re-

In *Das Lied von der Erde* Mr. Maars never quite solved the difficulty of balancing the voices against the orchestra in Mahler's more opulent pages; Llanelli's vocalists possess social problems but were still an interpretation rich in expression, penetrating in poignancy and devotedly sung. by Alfred Hodgson and Robert Tarr, and producing from the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra playing their part emphasized again what a fine body this now is, with particularly sensitive contributions in the departments of flute and oboe.

[illegible]

HAROLD HOLT LTD. & VICTOR HOCHHAUSER present
ROYAL SILVER JUBILEE CONCERTS

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 30 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 85 years of age or older is projected to increase from 2 million to 4 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 90 years of age or older is projected to increase from 500,000 to 1 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 95 years of age or older is projected to increase from 100,000 to 200,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 100 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

Bridge

Inevitable guess

nyone asks my advice, I give it. I have passed the elementary stage and seek the latest developments. I give him any real card-play and one as good as another. I give him any real card-play and one as good as another. I give him any real card-play and one as good as another.

By reducing speculation to a minimum, I have developed the unfortunate habit of invariably looking for the most obvious way to play the hand. They think of the key cards as an adverse squeeze than to take a straightforward finesse, although in either case the odds in favour of success may be approximately the same. Here is an instance of how an expert loses a trick by being persuaded to look for a non-existent squeeze.

North South game - dealer South.

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
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♠ A K 7 4
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♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♠ A K 7 4
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♠ K 9 8
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♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
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♠ A K 7 4
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♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
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♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
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♠ A K 7 4
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♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

of having frequently defended in this way by unblocking and undertrumping? Certainly not; but I have made a great many contracts against bad trump breaks by ruffing high at the crucial moment and leaving me in the unenviable position of ruffing his partner's winner.

By reducing speculation to a minimum, I have developed the unfortunate habit of invariably looking for the most obvious way to play the hand. They think of the key cards as an adverse squeeze than to take a straightforward finesse, although in either case the odds in favour of success may be approximately the same. Here is an instance of how an expert loses a trick by being persuaded to look for a non-existent squeeze.

North South game - dealer South.

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

♠ A K 7 4
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♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ A 10 8 3

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♣ A 10 8 3

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♦ K 7 4
♣ A 10 8 4 3

♠ K 9 8
♥ A Q 10 5 4
♦ A 10 8 3
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♠ A K 7 4
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♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♠ A K 7 4
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♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♠ A K 7 4
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♣ A 10 8 4 3

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♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♠ A K 7 4
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♥ A Q 10 5 4
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♠ K 9 8
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The Greek island of Spetses is not a happy hunting ground for the historical explorer, with its lack of temples to sundry gods and other Hellenic bric-a-brac (although its citizens did give the Turks their first glimpse of the war of independence a long time ago), but as a place to while away the hours and live the lotus life there can be few better.

Even when we arrived, late and very tired, Spetses, one of the Saronic islands south of better-known Hydra, still managed to cast a spell.

Gorgeously coloured blooms of every variety and scent fill the gardens and festoon the whitewashed houses. Donkeys, goats and herds of sheep dot the narrow streets. Cocks crow incessantly, as if every half hour were another dawn, and everything is bathed in incredible light.

Cars with a few exceptions (these always are) are banned, so everything is moved by small motorbikes, boat or horse. The island sound is the hum of the horn. They honk for service at shops, for petrol from the jetties, for coffee from the tavernas (coffee was a disappointment, being only the bitter-sweet Greek kind or hot water and a packet of Nescafé), or just to say hello. A friendly place, Spetses. I can understand why Orestis bought an island all for himself.

Our newly arrived tourist was invited to ride pillion with a revving, mustachioed driver, to be taken to her hotel. She left, uncomplaining, in a cloud of fumes, gripping her bags and with a surprised look on her face. Why? Go shopping, sitting side-saddle as their husbands weave a fast, honking route to market. I chose not to hire one, having run out of road on a 350 some years back, and settled for a sedate bicycle instead.

We were to stay in a villa,

and ours was a charming old house, painted white and blue, 10 minutes from town. It was well equipped for six and was clean, airy and felt exactly as a Greek villa should. Its owner, a sailor, kept his medals on show and smiled modestly down at us from his portrait on the wall.

Beats were comfortable, if not exactly Dunlop-like, and the stone floors were the best relief for scorched feet I have ever encountered. There was a dining room, small kitchen (every pan imaginable), and our garden was alive with geraniums, hydrangeas and even had our own lemon tree. (Very early on it became known as the gin and tonic tree, and was used mightily.)

The English family in the villa next door, as brown as nuts and reading *The Daily Telegraph* over breakfast, had been there a month. Not so much of the gods as how on earth could they afford it? People came and went with much clanging of the door bell and happy waves all round.

That's Greece.

Eating out on the terrace (at 8 am the temperature was in the seventies) was a delight. Our view was a rocky landscape where cypress trees, stiff as sentinels, stood a guard around the clusters of white houses with their terracotta roofs and pink blue and brown window shutters. Our food was simple and cheap.

Fish is expensive in restaurants, but in the market freshly caught mullet, sardine and bream cost little. We bought 16 sardines (the large kind) for £1, and with salad, coarse brown bread and wine, created for less than £2 a meal we shall long remember.

Night life centres round the tavernas, where a lingering

meal of salad (always good), octopus chunks, fried squid, mezeballs, bread and wine cost about £2.50. Most drinks, from ouzo to wine, are about 25p. Bouzouki music is played loud and constantly, and men will suddenly leave their seats, grasp each other's arms and go into a Zorba dance at the drop of a plate. Anyone can throw a plate, or a glass, and they generally do, to cheers and hand-claps and shouts.

It is all part of the machismo game to flex muscles, crunch fingers and even pick up a table with the teeth. Women play no part in these boyish antics. Could it be they might cut their feet? Anyway, I never did find out who paid for the breakdances.

Spetses does not seem to have a sandy beach, which makes it less than perfect for children. There are shingle beaches at Anarghry and Lazaretta, reached by boat, where people go for the day. And, of course, there are hundreds of rocky coves where you can simply disappear from civilization. The ferry that takes you is skippered by a Greek, a tall, very Greek-looking Greek with a sailor's cap and an eye for the girls, who plays records of Strauss as his boat cuts the water. A bizarre sound in that temperate sea. Giorgio delivers and collects you for a modest fee and will happily join in for a drink and a chat and even remembers your name 24 hours later.

A swimming hazard are the small, near transparent jelly fish which seem to hang around in groups in your bit of sea and can sting you in the most private places. We did not get terribly wet in Spetses. Otherwise the water is clear and clean, offers good fishing from the rocks, and is ideal for toughies who prefer water

to land.

When Odysseus finally came back to the patient, virtuous Penelope after his years of roistering and hers of stitching, it was not just to see his wife again. What he really wanted was an excuse to be back to the Greek islands. And who could blame him?

How to get there: Inghams Travel have four delightful villas on Spetses sleeping 4 to 8 people. Prices per person are from £114 inclusive for seven nights, various dates from May to October, £145 for 14 nights. On Poros, Hotel Chrysi Avgi from £151 and Hotel Anarghry from £149 for seven nights, various dates May to October, and £191 and £189 for 14 nights. On Tolo, there is a smart hotel with rooftop restaurant. Prices on request. Inghams' excellent and informative Discovery Tours of Greece and the Greek islands include flights, hotels, guides, information on request.

White: O. Romanishin. Black: S. Sprick. Q. P. King's Indian Defence.

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bb1 Bc5 4. Bc2 Bb6 5. Qd2 Qd6 6. Qc3 Qc7 7. Qb3 Qb6 8. Qa4 Qa5 9. Qb3 Qb6 10. Qa4 Qa5 11. Qb3 Qb6 12. Qa4 Qa5 13. Qb3 Qb6 14. Qa4 Qa5 15. Qb3 Qb6 16. Qa4 Qa5 17. Qb3 Qb6 18. Qa4 Qa5 19. Qb3 Qb6 20. Qa4 Qa5 21. Qb3 Qb6 22. Qa4 Qa5 23. Qb3 Qb6 24. Qa4 Qa5 25. Qb3 Qb6 26. Qa4 Qa5 27. Qb3 Qb6 28. Qa4 Qa5 29. Qb3 Qb6 30. Qa4 Qa5 31. Qb3 Qb6 32. Qa4 Qa5 33. Qb3 Qb6 34. Qa4 Qa5 35. Qb3 Qb6 36. Qa4 Qa5 37. Qb3 Qb6 38. Qa4 Qa5 39. Qb3 Qb6 40. Qa4 Qa5 41. Qb3 Qb6 42. Qa4 Qa5 43. Qb3 Qb6 44. Qa4 Qa5 45. Qb3 Qb6 46. Qa4 Qa5 47. Qb3 Qb6 48. Qa4 Qa5 49. Qb3 Qb6 50. Qa4 Qa5 51. Qb3 Qb6 52. Qa4 Qa5 53. Qb3 Qb6 54. Qa4 Qa5 55. Qb3 Qb6 56. Qa4 Qa5 57. Qb3 Qb6 58. Qa4 Qa5 59. Qb3 Qb6 60. Qa4 Qa5 61. Qb3 Qb6 62. Qa4 Qa5 63. Qb3 Qb6 64. Qa4 Qa5 65. Qb3 Qb6 66. Qa4 Qa5 67. Qb3 Qb6 68. Qa4 Qa5 69. Qb3 Qb6 70. Qa4 Qa5 71. Qb3 Qb6 72. Qa4 Qa5 73. Qb3 Qb6 74. Qa4 Qa5 75. Qb3 Qb6 76. Qa4 Qa5 77. Qb3 Qb6 78. Qa4 Qa5 79. Qb3 Qb6 80. Qa4 Qa5 81. Qb3 Qb6 82. Qa4 Qa5 83. Qb3 Qb6 84. Qa4 Qa5 85. Qb3 Qb6 86. Qa4 Qa5 87. Qb3 Qb6 88. Qa4 Qa5 89. Qb3 Qb6 90. Qa4 Qa5 91. Qb3 Qb6 92. Qa4 Qa5 93. Qb3 Qb6 94. Qa4 Qa5 95. Qb3 Qb6 96. Qa4 Qa5 97. Qb3 Qb6 98. Qa4 Qa5 99. Qb3 Qb6 100. Qa4 Qa5

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1. Nf3 Nf6 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bb1 Bc5 4. Bc2 Bb6 5. Qd2 Qd6 6. Qc3 Qc7 7. Qb3 Qb6 8. Qa4 Qa5 9. Qb3 Qb6 10. Qa4 Qa5 11. Qb3 Qb6 12. Qa4 Qa5 13. Qb3 Qb6 14. Qa4 Qa5 15. Qb3 Qb6 16. Qa4 Qa5 17. Qb3 Qb6 18. Qa4 Qa5 19. Qb3 Qb6 20. Qa4 Qa5 21. Qb3 Qb6 22. Qa4 Qa5 23. Qb3 Qb6 24. Qa4 Qa5 25. Qb3 Qb6 26. Qa4 Qa5 27. Qb3 Qb6 28. Qa4 Qa5 29. Qb3 Qb6 30. Qa4 Qa5 31. Qb3 Qb6 32. Qa4 Qa5 33. Qb3 Qb6 34. Qa4 Qa5 35. Qb3 Qb6 36. Qa4 Qa5 37. Qb3 Qb6 38. Qa4 Qa5 39. Qb3 Qb6 40. Qa4 Qa5 41. Qb3 Qb6 42. Qa4 Qa5 43. Qb3 Qb6 44. Qa4 Qa5 45. Qb3 Qb6 46. Qa4 Qa5 47. Qb3 Qb6 48. Qa4 Qa5 49. Qb3 Qb6 50. Qa4 Qa5 51. Qb3 Qb6 52. Qa4 Qa5 53. Qb3 Qb6 54. Qa4 Qa5 55. Qb3 Qb6 56. Qa4 Qa5 57. Qb3 Qb6 58. Qa4 Qa5 59. Qb3 Qb6 60. Qa4 Qa5 61. Qb3 Qb6 62. Qa4 Qa5 63. Qb3 Qb6 64. Qa4 Qa5 65. Qb3 Qb6 66. Qa4 Qa5 67. Qb3 Qb6 68. Qa4 Qa5 69. Qb3 Qb6 70. Qa4 Qa5 71. Qb3 Qb6 72. Qa4 Qa5 73. Qb3 Qb6 74. Qa4 Qa5 75. Qb3 Qb6 76. Qa4 Qa5 77. Qb3 Qb6 78. Qa4 Qa5 79. Qb3 Qb6 80. Qa4 Qa5 81. Qb3 Qb6 82. Qa4 Qa5 83. Qb3 Qb6 84. Qa4 Qa5 85. Qb3 Qb6 86. Qa4 Qa5 87. Qb3 Qb6 88. Qa4 Qa5 89. Qb3 Qb6 90. Qa4 Qa5 91. Qb3 Qb6 92. Qa4 Qa5 93. Qb3 Qb6 94. Qa4 Qa5 95. Qb3 Qb6 96. Qa4 Qa5 97. Qb3 Qb6 98. Qa4 Qa5 99. Qb3 Qb6 100. Qa4 Qa5

White: O. Romanishin. Black: S. Sprick. Q. P. King's Indian Defence.

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bb1 Bc5 4. Bc2 Bb6 5. Qd2 Qd6 6. Qc3 Qc7 7. Qb3 Qb6 8. Qa4 Qa5 9. Qb3 Qb6 10. Qa4 Qa5 11. Qb3 Qb6 12. Qa4 Qa5 13. Qb3 Qb6 14. Qa4 Qa5 15. Qb3 Qb6 16. Qa4 Qa5 17. Qb3 Qb6 18. Qa4 Qa5 19. Qb3 Qb6 20. Qa4 Qa5 21. Qb3 Qb6 22. Qa4 Qa5 23. Qb3 Qb6 24. Qa4 Qa5 25. Qb3 Qb6 26. Qa4 Qa5 27. Qb3 Qb6 28. Qa4 Qa5 29. Qb3 Qb6 30. Qa4 Qa5 31. Qb3 Qb6 32. Qa4 Qa5 33. Qb3 Qb6 34. Qa4 Qa5 35. Qb3 Qb6 36. Qa4 Qa5 37. Qb3 Qb6 38. Qa4 Qa5 39. Qb3 Qb6 40. Qa4 Qa5 41. Qb3 Qb6 42. Qa4 Qa5 43. Qb3 Qb6 44. Qa4 Qa5 45. Qb3 Qb6 46. Qa4 Qa5 47. Qb3 Qb6 48. Qa4 Qa5 49. Qb3 Qb6 50. Qa4 Qa5 51. Qb3 Qb6 52. Qa4 Qa5 53. Qb3 Qb6 54. Qa4 Qa5 55. Qb3 Qb6 56. Qa4 Qa5 57. Qb3 Qb6 58. Qa4 Qa5 59. Qb3 Qb6 60. Qa4 Qa5 61. Qb3 Qb6 62. Qa4 Qa5 63. Qb3 Qb6 64. Qa4 Qa5 65. Qb3 Qb6 66. Qa4 Qa5 67. Qb3 Qb6 68. Qa4 Qa5 69. Qb3 Qb6 70. Qa4 Qa5 71. Qb3 Qb6 72. Qa4 Qa5 73. Qb3 Qb6 74. Qa4 Qa5 75. Qb3 Qb6 76. Qa4 Qa5 77. Qb3 Qb6 78. Qa4 Qa5 79. Qb3 Qb6 80. Qa4 Qa5 81. Qb3 Qb6 82. Qa4 Qa5 83. Qb3 Qb6 84. Qa4 Qa5 85. Qb3 Qb6 86. Qa4 Qa5 87. Qb3 Qb6 88. Qa4 Qa5 89. Qb3 Qb6 90. Qa4 Qa5 91. Qb3 Qb6 92. Qa4 Qa5 93. Qb3 Qb6 94. Qa4 Qa5 95. Qb3 Qb6 96. Qa4 Qa5 97. Qb3 Qb6 98. Qa4 Qa5 99. Qb3 Qb6 100. Qa4 Qa5

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1. Nf3 Nf6 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bb1 Bc5 4. Bc2 Bb6 5. Qd2 Qd6 6. Qc3 Qc7 7. Qb3 Qb6 8. Qa4 Qa5 9. Qb3 Qb6 10. Qa4 Qa5 11. Qb

LEE AND BIRTHDAY HONOURS



David (DB)



Harry Llewellyn (Knight)



Noel Murray (Knight)



Brian Rix (CBE)



Doris Speed (MBE)



Dickie Henderson (OBE)

ZEALAND LIST

HON OF HONOUR

Robert David, Prime of New Zealand.

ITS BACHELOR

Roberts, Governor of the Bank of New Zealand.

OF THE BATH

McKenzie, ch of

OF ST MICHAEL

St George

CMG

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OF THE BRITISH

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VIL DIVISION

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DIPLOMATIC SERVICE AND OVERSEAS LIST

KNIGHTS BACHELOR

Com-Minor, Sydney Douglas, Governor of St Vincent.

CMG

Com-Minor, Sydney Douglas, Governor of St Vincent.

OF ST MICHAEL

St George

CMG

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OF THE BRITISH

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St George

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE LIST

STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

ORDER OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE

The Most Rev J. P. Carroll, serv to

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

A. Carmichael, serv to comm

OBE

A. Carmichael, serv to comm

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA LIST

KNIGHTS BACHELOR

Burton, Samuel Gerald Wood, for

CMG

Burton, Samuel Gerald Wood, for

OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE

Burton, Samuel Gerald Wood, for

CMG

Burton, Samuel Gerald Wood, for

OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Burton, Samuel Gerald Wood, for

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ROYAL VICTORIAN ORDER

GCVO

Cholmondeley, George Hugh,

DCVO

Cholmondeley, George Hugh,

KCVO

Cholmondeley, George Hugh,

CVO

Cholmondeley, George Hugh,

MBE

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New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

EALISM ON RHODESIA

Callaghan and Dr Owen have the full verbal force of an impatience and frustration over the failure of British (to mention American) to produce black rule in Rhodesia by negotiation. As Mr Shehu Yar'Adua of the Rhodesian Front said, negotiations have on for twelve years, and Mr Smith defies everybody, saying that negotiations got nowhere, however, go on: Dr Kissinger's intervention did drive Mr Smith at last to accept majority rule in Rhodesia on conditions—two years. The current negotiations attempt to exploit this through and, as Dr Owen argued, offer the best chance of an independent Rhodesia in 1978.

On the one hand, the Rhodesians must decisively get the position. If they do, they will produce a rule—though it is not to which Mr Smith yields power will have to "moderate" one, reflecting the stance of Bishop Shehu Yar'Adua, who is more than the belligerence of the Patriotic Front, to which conference seems unwisely to accord sole recognition. On the other hand, if the Rhodesians fail, the war will be intensified and there is little doubt then, in some way, Britain have to endorse or facilitate guerrilla struggle. But at present the question for Mr Smith is whether he should promise to accept more pressure while Mr Smith is actually negotiating, or whether he should go as far as to accept that the Rhodesians should operate as part of a whole process. Certainly effort will now be made to them off until Mr Smith's position is assured.

But else can Britain do? It is not the Africans to whom we can pull out more than the United States. It is further pressure can be

exerted without American help. It is President Carter's good will that is the new and hopeful factor in the current situation, his evident readiness to go on from where Dr Kissinger left off. To deal, as the Africans demand, with the oil supply to Rhodesia, for instance, requires American help, for the multinational companies will only respond (if they can and if at all) to combined government pressure. But the final decision whether to cut off Rhodesian oil lies neither in London nor Washington. It lies in Pretoria, for theoretically, even if the companies scaled down deliveries, South Africa could supply Rhodesia from its large stocks. However, that decision is influenced by the consideration whether South Africa risks precipitating an oil embargo of itself at this stage (as Dr Kissinger well understood). But to restrict oil supplies to South Africa itself requires much more than the cooperation of the oil companies—it requires the collaboration of the United States and Iranian governments—which in turn implies better relations than now exist between them.

It may be, as President Kaunda suggests, that Britain could twist the screw on Rhodesia a little more—by breaking the post and telecommunications for example. Whether this would significantly weaken Rhodesia militarily is for military experts to advise. But cutting communications will hardly help Mr Graham's efforts, and will certainly give Mr Smith's propaganda machine, working hard to bolster white intransigence, the monopoly of news that it now has not got.

Dr Owen's main task must be to persuade Mr Vorster, it is clear, that it is in his interest to put pressure on Mr Smith, whose latest remarks suggest that he is formulating new difficulties and demands. It must be asked if it makes sense at the same time to urge Mr Vorster to help with Rhodesia, and to utter new threats, and plan new

boycotts, against South Africa itself.

To take another example, the African leaders are reported to be pressing that Britain, and particularly New Zealand, must formally ban their citizens and sporting associations from playing with South African sportsmen—on pain of African withdrawal from the Commonwealth Games. Even if this was conceded, how useful would it be in getting Mr Vorster to put pressure on Mr Smith?

Fortunately for Dr Owen's effort, it cannot of course be conceded. Mr Callaghan, like any parliamentary leader, can make no such commitment. He has no power to make orders, as Africans who remember "Westminster model" democracy should realize. The most he could do is to urge his Commonwealth colleagues to get his government to present a Bill to Parliament making all sporting contacts with South Africa actually illegal. It is most unlikely that Parliament would pass such a law—and certain that the present House of Commons would not—because it would grossly abrogate individual liberties, and because the proposal would be seen as a presumptuous demand by the Commonwealth that British citizens should be curtailed to suit African priorities.

What frustrates African leaders, perhaps, is not only that Britain has proved so powerless, but that guerrilla pressure is also so slow to take effect. Indeed suggestions that outside aid for them should be called in strengthens this suspicion. But the facts must be accepted, and they point to a dual approach. The guerrillas are steadily, if slowly, making the Smith position untenable, while negotiations for a peaceful settlement to stave off all-out war in southern Africa can surely count on South African pressure at the right moments. The Commonwealth leaders need to be coldly calculating, not emotional and doctrinaire.

We agreed in March to provide support for the Government in order, first, to give it more time to sustain economic recovery, and second, to carry through a limited programme of constitutional reform. If the Government now fails to conclude a worthwhile peace policy for the next stage, and falters in its commitment to devolution and to direct elections, the grounds for the agreement will have ceased to exist.

Understand that within the Government the comforting argument is made that the Liberals will nevertheless hesitate to end the agreement for fear of an electoral setback. That would be a gross miscalculation. An early election would certainly pose risks for us, though we have no doubt that we might hope to recapture a good deal of the support we have temporarily lost. An election which was fought in the wake of a collapse of the Labour Government and the failure of its economic strategy would, however, be a disaster for Labour. The electoral disaffection which would follow the first year of a Conservative government might well flow massively towards our party, as a shattered Labour Opposition team itself apart.

My own hesitation about the agreement with Labour was that it might serve to halt that party's slow decline. If the Labour Party is unwilling to save itself, there is no incentive for Liberals to support it. We have no doubt that the political wilderness for long enough; and if necessary we are prepared to wait a little longer, if the prize is to be the collapse of the Labour Party and the emergence of the reformed radical party for which we have worked for so long.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM WALLACE
Prospective Liberal Parliamentary Candidate, Manchester Moss Side, 79 Clarendon Road, Manchester, June 6.

at least accountable, economic returns. It is not only the landscape which suffers from this kind of casual planting, it is the nature of the soil itself, and thus of the whole ecology of the countryside, since trees help to nourish soil and to prevent the topsoil erosion which is already perceptible on high land and in some of the fens.

A major psychological barrier has to be overcome by many farmers, who do not regard small-scale forestry as an organic part of their operations—both because profits are not easily apparent in a period of intensive and profit-conscious husbandry and because they are not encouraged financially to regard them as such, since they do not receive similar grants and allowances for forestry machinery and plant as they do for other parts of agriculture.

If these two aspects of land use—agriculture and silviculture—could be brought together with a common attitude to investment, it would make a start towards encouraging farmers to regard tree planting as something more than an optional extra. An increase in planting grants for private forestry is to be introduced this autumn; but there are still aspects of the capital transfer tax which serve as a deterrent to any fully positive attitude to forestry by smallholders. Yet a pronounced and continuous increase in our native woodland is essential both for reasons of land husbandry and to reduce our economic dependence on overseas timber.

A national archive

From Major J. D. Sainsbury

Sir, Far more serious than the loss of war diaries of home service units of the Great War, insofar as nothing can be done to recover the diaries, is the intention to destroy the records of service of officers commissioned during the Great War.

Before 1914 officers' biographical details can be traced in the majority of cases through the usual reference works. Once the war had started the majority of officers were drawn from families that cannot be so traced. I have been privileged, after a considerable struggle against red tape, to be allowed to inspect the records of officers of the two units with which the West is concerned. I found them to contain a wealth of historical record, but, according to the officials with whom I came in contact at the time, they are to be destroyed with the exception of those of officers who were awarded the Victoria Cross, or whose court martial resulted in a sentence of death.

The Ministry of Defence must reconsider this intended destruction. If after all proper advice destruction is confirmed, can these invaluable social documents not be offered to county record offices so that at least the records of locally raised units can, if their counties are willing to make the effort, be preserved?

Yours faithfully,
J. D. SAINSBURY
Herfordshire Yeomanry and Artillery Historical Trust, 8 Mornington, Digswell, Welwyn, June 7.

Liberal support for Labour

From Mr William Wallace

Sir, Only weeks after the Liberal Party Council gave David Steel overwhelming support for the agreement with the Labour Government for the current session, a growing number of Liberals are beginning to doubt the desirability of renewing the agreement in the autumn, and to weigh the advantages of precipitating an election instead.

The Cabinet's reported behaviour over the direct elections Bill has of course been a crucial factor in this shift of opinion; but it has by no means been the only factor. "Indecision" has been one of the most frequently used words about Cabinet discussions in recent weeks, on devolution, on pay policy and on industrial democracy, as much as on direct elections. The impression the outsider gains is of a government becalmed, with the left taking to the oars to pull it in their favoured direction and the moderates sitting around and waiting to see if a wind will spring up again. Certainly one has no impression of any great effort by the social democrats who were so active in seeking the agreement with the Liberals to press on their colleagues decisions which reflect the letter and the spirit of that agreement.

Reflecting on the widely leaked accounts of indecisive Cabinet and Ministers in the past few weeks, some of us wonder whether this Government has any longer the will to survive.

We agreed in March to provide support for the Government in order, first, to give it more time to sustain economic recovery, and second, to carry through a limited programme of constitutional reform. If the Government now fails to conclude a worthwhile peace policy for the next stage, and falters in its commitment to devolution and to direct elections, the grounds for the agreement will have ceased to exist.

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Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM WALLACE
Prospective Liberal Parliamentary Candidate, Manchester Moss Side, 79 Clarendon Road, Manchester, June 6.

Balance-sheet of EEC

From Mr Edward Hillson

Sir, The letter from Mr Douglas Jay in your issue of today (June 9) clearly underlines the utter impossibility of arriving at a true balance-sheet; the dimensions used by him and many others are all the wrong ones. I write as one of many who feel that only by bringing another consideration can a true balance-sheet be struck.

I am 82, one of those, a dwindling number, who served in the mud, blood and human waste of the First World War; I was in the trenches of the League of Nations to preserve peace, and hence served again in the horrors of the Second World War.

There will always be an imbalance in the economies of the European Community until harmonization of all its sections is accomplished. Megatime one of its aims has been achieved; the preservation of peace in Europe. We had 21 years of peace between 1918 and 1939; since then we have had 38 years of peace. Each year is being paid for no doubt and whether willingly or unwillingly by an increased cost of living, but a bonus all the same for those who have had enough of war and value peace.

War will not appear in the books of Mr Jay and those other opposing protagonists; in their balance-sheet there can be no asset years of peace, because for them it has no measurable price. They are the few who know the price of everything but the value of nothing.

Yours faithfully,
E. HILLSON
Silverdale, Farnham, Surrey, Portsmouth, June 6.

Clockwork Concordes?

From Mr Glyn Morgan

Sir, In last Thursday's issue (June 2) your Air Correspondent stated that "worldwide supersonic services should be commonplace by the turn of the century". Apart from the sheer horror of such a vision, is this not about the time when we are told that world oil supplies will be almost exhausted? There seems to be some confusion here unless the times of the twenty-first century are to be full of clockwork Concordes.

Surely it is time that governments were encouraged to abandon their commitment to an illusory and destructive notion of progress and gradually phase out air travel except for emergencies? Holidays account for most aeroplane journeys and even then a procession of half-empty Jumbo jets trundles across the Atlantic. After all, it will have to happen eventually. Won't it?

Yours faithfully,
GLYN MORGAN
28 Priory Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, June 7.

The judges and trade union rights

From Professor J. A. Jolowicz

Sir, In an astonishing article which you have seen fit to print on the eye of the House of Lords hearing of the Gouriet case, Mr Jackson (June 8) was certainly right to say that more is at stake than a "parochial legal wrangle" over what he calls "the anomalous restriction on the right to strike of Post Office workers". The case is sub judice. Lengthy comment on Mr Jackson's article would therefore be out of place, but can it be seriously doubted that what is at stake is the power to prevent, or try to prevent, conduct which Parliament has declared to be unlawful? The courts cannot initiate action themselves. The question is, therefore, whether it is the Attorney General alone, exercising a discretion which may or may not be subject to effective parliamentary control, who can invoke the preventive or declaratory jurisdiction of the courts where no private action in tort is competent. This is, indeed, no "parochial legal wrangle"; it is a question of the highest constitutional importance.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. JOLOWICZ
Professor of Comparative Law, Trinity College, Cambridge, June 8.

From Mr P. J. G. Elwes

Sir, In his article (June 8), Mr Tom Jackson comments that few people have appreciated the significance of Lord Denning's judgment in the matter of the injunction sought by Mr Gouriet to restrain the Post Office workers from implementing their proposed boycott. One wonders how many people have appreciated the significance to the rule of law and the liberty of the individual of the line of argument used by Mr Jackson.

What is being argued, in effect, is that it is wrong that there should be freedom to mount civil proceedings to restrain unions from acting unlawfully. "Wrong" in this context evidently means "contrary to union interests". It is nevertheless reassuring to learn that an unlawful act by a union, while illegal, may not necessarily be criminal.

Mr Jackson expresses fear that the law is being interpreted in such a way as to jeopardise the statutory immunity and protection for union activities that recent legislation has conferred. The activity of the Post Office unions has indeed on this occasion been a boycott for political ends to be carried out regardless of the law of the land or the cost and inconvenience to the individual reliant on the services in question or the cost to the taxpayer of maintaining the services of the Post Office during the boycott.

The final irony is the proposition in the last paragraph that the ability to restrain unlawful acts by unions is especially reprehensible where industrial action or sympathetic action against industrialists is involved. The present administration, on which Mr Jackson and his colleagues will no doubt rely to introduce amending legislation further to immunise unions from the consequences of their actions, has already distinguished itself in this field with the appalling closed shop provisions which effectively deprive the individual of this freedom to join or not to join a union. These provisions can, be, and are being, used to deprive the individual of his livelihood without redress.

How can anyone professing respect for the law and individual liberties continue to accept this sort of special pleading and the dual standards it reflects? I fancy people generally would have more sympathy for trade unionism if unions confined themselves to the functions for which they were brought into

being and pursued the cause of human rights within their own field of activity more openly and energetically, instead of looking around for others to smite at the expense of the rule of law and the public interest.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ELWES
Cleveland House, 19 St James's Square, SW1, June 8.

From Mr Walter Clegg, MP for North Fylde (Conservative)

Sir, I read with apprehension Mr Tom Jackson's article on the Gouriet judgment (June 8). His charge against the judiciary is quite clear in that he alleges that "since at least 1906 the courts have devoted considerable judicial ingenuity to side-stepping statutory provisions enacted by Parliament". No more serious charge can be made against judges than that they have over the years showed bias and made a determined attempt to subvert the will of Parliament.

Mr Jackson's attack on the judiciary is not the only one. Similar charges have been made by Mr Michael Foot and Mr Lord Murray and all of them, significantly, before the Law Lords have heard the appeal on the Gouriet judgment. Those Law Lords are thus being placed in an impossible position because if they find against the unions it will be for Mr Jackson et al one more proof of judicial bias, and if they find for the unions the temptation for those aggrieved would be to believe that the courts had bowed to union criticism. I do not believe the Law Lords will decide the issue on those terms but will do right as their oaths require them to do.

The judiciary is singularly ill-equipped to defend itself against charges of bias, but surely the time has come for the Lord Chancellor, as head of the legal system, to speak out in defence of the judges or if he believes there is a prima facie case of bias to set up an inquiry which will consider whether these charges are justified.

It does seem from Mr Jackson's article that he wishes trades unions to be able to act unlawfully, save in the sense of the criminal law, not only in direct industrial disputes but "in sympathetic action or industrial action on human rights". If the courts are to be excluded from acting in these spheres then the power of the unions will be enhanced to a point where it would be beyond all control. It is ironic that the trades unions who want these immunities have demanded and obtained from Parliament legal sanctions by the score against employers and those who disagree with trades union membership.

Yours truly,
WALTER CLEGG
House of Commons, June 9.

From Professor D. F. Lawden

Sir, Whatever possessed Mr Tom Jackson to write such a revealing article (June 8)? He makes no effort to conceal the assumption, typical of an established figure, that what is good for him is good for the country at large.

What's good for General Motors is good for America! Nevertheless, there are still a few of us who question the identification of the TUC and Crown and are grateful for the curb placed upon the privileges of the former by the courts of the latter.

Yours truly,
D. F. LAWDEN
Professor of Mathematics, The University of Aston in Birmingham, Costa Green, Birmingham, June 9.

Professor Yuri Orlov

From Professor Sir Brian Pippard and others

Sir, We write to you on behalf of our colleague, Professor Yuri Orlov, a corresponding member of the Armenian Academy of Sciences and a distinguished physicist. On January 1, 1974, Professor Orlov was dismissed, without explanation, from his post at the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics in Moscow. Since then he has been unable to obtain any work as a physicist.

On May 12, 1976, he founded the Group for Human Rights Observation of the Helsinki Agreements in the USSR. From November of last year he has been under constant police surveillance and on February 10, 1977 he was arrested. Today he is being detained in Lefortovo Prison in Moscow. No charges have been published against him. He has had no contact at all with the outside world. On Thursday, May 12 his wife, Irina Valitova, went to the

prison but she was not even allowed to leave a letter for him. The way in which Professor Orlov is being treated is a fundamental breach of the human rights which the Soviet Government recognised by signing the Helsinki Declarations. As physicians are dismayed that a man of his ability has not been able to work freely for over three years.

This state of affairs cannot be allowed to continue. If, after three months' investigation, the Soviet authorities are not prepared to bring charges against Professor Orlov, they should release him. Yours sincerely,
BRIAN PIPPAARD
PAUL J. MATTHEWS
M. J. MATA
R. J. ELLIOTT
Department of Physics, University of Cambridge, Cavendish Laboratory, Madingley Road, Cambridge, May 30.

St Alban and St George

From Dr Graham Webster

Sir, The correspondence about Albanus the first Christian martyr in Britain has been the suggestion that he would not be a worthy patron saint since he was not English. But why should a British patron saint have to be a recent Teutonic migrant whose folk came here only about thirteen hundred years ago? Far better surely to have a true Briton to represent our country?

The precise date and origin of Albanus are unknown, since the date of 209 is no more than a guess. There was very little active persecution of Christians under the Severi and the period of Diocletian is more likely. Indeed, the action of the "Caesar" in ordering the persecution to cease could apply to the tolerant Constantine who was Caesar in the West in 303 when the troubles began.

If Alban was a soldier he could have come from anywhere in the Empire although, ironically enough, by the fourth century he would probably have been of Germanic extraction, the apparent essential prerequisite of some of our correspondents. All we can be sure about is that he was a real person whose tomb was venerated in the fifth century, that he was the first martyr in Britain, and that, according to Gildas, he gave his life to protect a friend. Surely one needs no more qualification than this for a national Christian hero; far better than the shadowy St George with his dubious antecedents and strong

Playwright and critic

From Mr William Douglas-Horne

Sir, Having had three plays produced in London during the last three months—two having been caught on the barbed wire and riddled with critical cross-fire and now decently interred, the third a success—I find myself in the unique position of being able to comment on the critics without either patronage or bitterness. With your permission, I would like to start on yours.

For some years now I have noticed with increasing though admittedly amused concern that he has been banging his reviews of my plays on a kind of class-conscious, social-political coat-hanger which does as much damage to his reputation as a critic of the arts (if that is what he aspires to be) as it does to the initial reputation of my plays until the public have had time to make their own assessment if, indeed, they get the time.

Some years ago, in his review of *Lloyd George Knew My Father*, he confessed to this bias when he wrote, "It is the lot of entertainment plays to be criticised for social content". A year or two later, still true to this curious and self-imposed directive, he reviewed *The Dame of Sark* as follows: "There is Sark itself, in which the crumbling class-structure still flourishes. Then, there is the war which comes over as a well-bred affair." This dictum being based on the fact that the German Commandant happened to be called Count von Schmettau, appointed not by me, but by the German High Command!

Then, this year, reviewing the first of my trilogy, he described the over-taxed playwright therein as an "elite artist" for all the world as though every adult citizen of this country, elite or otherwise, were not suffering from over-kill taxation.

The second play, thank God, he did not review, but left it to one of his more open-minded under-studies. Otherwise, no doubt, with the leading character called Sir Cecil (knights for service to literature) and the leading lady called Lady Townsend (her husband having been pushed upstairs for "some damned crookery between the wars", according to Sir Cecil) and with an aged retainer as Sir Cecil's kick-off, he must inevitably have spotted some drastic attempt on my part to reverse the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act in favour of the "elite" upper classes.

Finally, in his review of the third play, he wrote "Mr Douglas-Horne has inevitably been drawn to the subject of Rolls-Royces as a surviving relic of the old British class structure and his treatment of the two farmers is destined to show the operation of the gentlemen's club." Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear! It is not my place to suggest what you, Sir, should do with him—only ask myself what I can do about him.

For, laughable as it may seem, I honestly believe that, if I were to put on a play about Debenham and Freebody, he would hinge his review on the fact that Debenham's sister married a bishop while Freebody's aunt settled for the captain of a Channel Ferry steamer (if, indeed, they did) and accuse me of writing a propaganda play in favour of the Established Church at the expense of the Merchant Navy, although assuming that the Merchant Navy, as an old-established institution, merits his support, which I take leave to doubt! I am, Sir, yours sincerely,
WILLIAM DOUGLAS-HORNE
Drayton House, East Meon, Hampshire.

Jubilee service

From Canon Alan Wilkinson

Sir, The Jubilee service in St Paul's was splendid and moving. But it was very sad that neither Cardinal Hume nor a representative of the Free Churches was given an opportunity to participate in the conduct of the service. The day when the Church of England regarded itself as the church of the nation, an exclusive sense is surely long past. Yours sincerely,
ALAN WILKINSON
9 Fairview Avenue, Alsgate, Stoke-on-Trent, June 7.

Compulsory seat belts

From Mr Nigel Lawson, MP for Blaby (Conservative)

Sir, Would Bryan Magee (letter, June 9) who, to see cigarette smoking made a criminal offence, precisely the same arguments apply. Yours, etc,
NIGEL LAWSON
House of Commons, June 9.

Lionel Smith's career

From Mr C. H. Stuart

Sir, Mr Hodgkin's delightful account of his uncle's early career (*The Times*, June 4) omits one small detail. Ten years or so before he refused to be headmaster at Eton, Lionel Smith had been happy to serve as an assistant master at Harrow. Yours, etc,
CHARLES STUART
Christ Church, Oxford, June 4.

English captain

From Mr A. B. Elgood

Sir, Following Mike Brearley's appointment as Captain of England for the forthcoming Test match, it would seem an appropriate moment to mark the return of an English captain after a South African, a Scotsman and a Welshman. Yours faithfully,
A. B. ELGOOD
Pantley Place, Common Green, Redmarley, Gloucestershire, June 6.

ex-linked pensions

Capt W. F. H. C. Rutherford, (Retd.)

Your front page of June 2 had a forecast that it is planned under the principle of linking ex-service pensions to the cost of living—a system introduced as a cheaper alternative when wages were running ahead of prices.

It is will bring little comfort to Armed Forces and police in the air atmosphere of their pay, if they can be so called an old enough to have been the course before.

The nineteen twenties and thirties Armed Forces pay and pensions tied to the cost of living and went down so did they, until an was reached and the cost of living began to rise when they were hurriedly "stabilised" and

is odd how governments treat a upon whom they depend in final instance for their authority vern.

a. Sir, Yours, etc,
W. F. H. C. RUTHERFORD, RN, (Retd.), Cottage, Way Road, Weymouth, Dorset, June 4.

ucation in N Ireland

in Lady Fisher

Brian Garrett's progressive and rational minded article in *The Times* (June 9), about integrated education in Northern Ireland focuses attention on a question that is being easily discussed in the vine.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

LAING

MANAGEMENT IN CONSTRUCTION

Minister refuses to raise profit safeguards for prices code

Mr. Eric Roll, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Affairs, yesterday refused to raise profit safeguards for the prices code.

Mr. Roll said that he was not prepared to raise the profit safeguards for the prices code, which are currently set at 10 per cent.

He said that the current safeguards were sufficient to protect consumers from excessive price rises, and that any increase would be detrimental to businesses.

Mr. Roll also said that he was not prepared to raise the profit safeguards for the prices code, which are currently set at 10 per cent.

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Saudi group in a £10m cash bid for Concrete

A Saudi group, National Chemical Industries, has made a £10m cash bid for Concrete, the British group which specialises in structural pre-cast concrete products under the "Bison" brand name.

The bid, valued at £10m, was made by the Saudi group, which is a subsidiary of the National Chemical Industries, a Saudi company.

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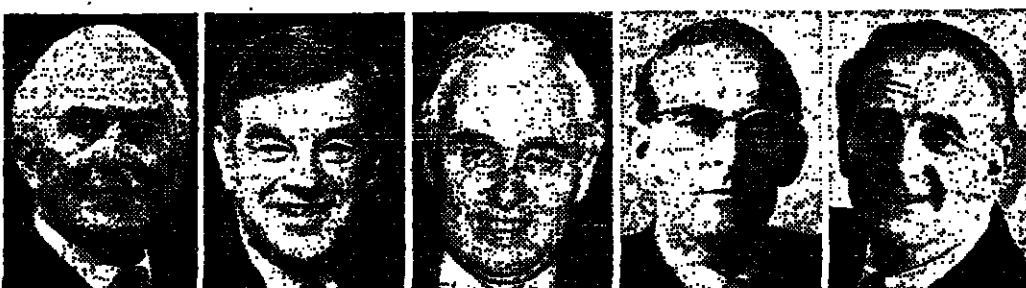
City and industry leaders honoured

Among those awarded knighthoods were, left to right: Mr Norman Biggs, Mr George Burton, Mr George Barlow, Mr Francis Pullinger, Mr Alan Dalton.

Other knights went to, left to right: Mr Adrian Cadbury, Mr David Steel, Mr Leslie Smith, Mr David Orr, Mr John Buckley.

Mr William Fieldhouse, chairman of the International, Mr Thomas Hones, chairman and chief executive, GKN Sankey.

Mr John Lee, director, Scott Lithgow; Mr Frederick Parker, chairman, Frederick Parker; Mr Joseph Righton, vice-chairman, Lucas (Industries); Mr Denis Rooney, chairman and managing director, Balfour Beatty; Mr Raymond Smart, commercial director, Glaxo Holdings; Mr Graham Strachan, group managing director, John Brown Engineering (Clydebank); Mr John Waterspoon, chairman, Singer (UK); Mr Arthur Wright, lately director of exports, GEC Power Engineering.



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Other CBE awards go to: Mr John Bailey, Co-operative Society; Mr Walter Evans, chief executive and secretary, English Industrial Estates Corporation; Mr George Beale for services to the Periodical Publishers' Association; Mr Alexander Fetherston, deputy chairman and chief executive, Berkshire International (UK); Mr Richard Bailey, managing director, Royal Doulton; Mr Thomas Burleigh, lately chairman, Firth Brown Tools; Mr Michael Clark, deputy chairman and deputy chief executive, Plessey; Mr Vernon Coffee, director, Thorn Electrical Industries; Mr William Fieldhouse, chairman of the International; Mr Thomas Hones, chairman and chief executive, GKN Sankey; Mr John Lee, director, Scott Lithgow; Mr Frederick Parker, chairman, Frederick Parker; Mr Joseph Righton, vice-chairman, Lucas (Industries); Mr Denis Rooney, chairman and managing director, Balfour Beatty; Mr Raymond Smart, commercial director, Glaxo Holdings; Mr Graham Strachan, group managing director, John Brown Engineering (Clydebank); Mr John Waterspoon, chairman, Singer (UK); Mr Arthur Wright, lately director of exports, GEC Power Engineering.

New call to cut rates for empty buildings

Local authority powers to charge full rates and penal surcharges on empty buildings are "discriminatory and unfair", according to the British Property Federation.

In a memorandum sent yesterday to Mr. John Silkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, the BPF calls for changes in the law limiting the maximum rate charge for empty property to 25 per cent and abolishing surcharges on unoccupied commercial buildings.

Empty rate legislation dates from 1967, when local authorities were empowered to charge up to half rates on unoccupied properties. In 1974 these powers were extended and authorities have since been able to levy a full rate charge on any building empty for more than three months.

When he introduced this surcharge Mr. John Silkin, the then Minister for Planning and Local Government, commented that "the keeping of commercial property vacant with the inevitable loss of rates is a penalty on the owner of the property which is not a fair return on the investment." The Federation comments on the "impropriety of using the rating system for imposing a penalty on the owner of the property which is not a fair return on the investment."

Unions rule out talks with GEC

Leaders of the GEC workers' union yesterday ruled out talks with the company over a proposed takeover.

The union, the GEC Workers' Union, said that it was not prepared to enter into negotiations with the company over a proposed takeover.

The union also said that it was not prepared to enter into negotiations with the company over a proposed takeover.

Burmah chief's pledge quiets campaigners

Burmah Oil's annual meeting in Glasgow yesterday carried unanimously a special resolution to support the company's offer to buy back shares.

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Unofficial strike again halts Leyland plant

A strike by 200 inspectors stopped all car production at Leyland's Longbridge plant yesterday. It was the second time in three days that unofficial action by a small group of inspectors had halted the plant.

The inspectors' walk-out, in protest at the company's refusal to meet their demands for upgrading, led to a further 4,000 cars being laid off until further notice.

Two further strikes are threatening production of the Land-Rover, Range-Rover and Rover 3500 saloon. They are being staged by 150 welders at Rover's plant at Garrison Street, Birmingham, and 45 operators at the nearby Acocks Green engine factory. About sixty other workers have been laid off, but their numbers could increase rapidly next week.

Some 800 Dolomite workers were sent home from Triumph Coventry yesterday because of a shortage of car bodies from the company's Liverpool plant.

The company reported a post tax loss of £9,098,000 (against £23,508,000 in 1975). Mr. Down added that 1977 would not be an easy year for the company, although the basis for continuing recovery had been established.

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La Rue profits soar, but dividend plea is rejected

Financial Staff

La Rue, the banknote group, yesterday needed well over doubled profits and revealed attempts to pay a "comparably higher dividend" had been rejected by the Treasury.

The group, which sold its 60 per cent stake in the banknote group, yesterday needed well over doubled profits and revealed attempts to pay a "comparably higher dividend" had been rejected by the Treasury.

The group's security printing side had a particularly successful year helped by price rises and certain overseas contracts. Meanwhile the Crosfield Electronics Division managed a satisfactory turnaround.

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SE decision expected on options trading

The Stock Exchange Council is likely to decide on whether to proceed with a revised plan for options trading when it meets next Tuesday.

This plan, proposed originally by five jobbers and a leading firm of brokers, would allow options to be traded on the exchange, which has been a long-standing ambition of the industry.

In brief

Computer challenge: Mr. Eugene White, president of Andahl Corporation of Sunnyvale, California, which is making an attack on the IBM base of large computer systems in Europe. Andahl is setting up a United Kingdom subsidiary Andahl (UK). Mr. White also announced that Andahl planned to set up an assembly plant for its computers in Dublin early next year. The group has been successful in the United States in offering "plug compatible" central processors which run on IBM programs.

Deficit financing likely to dominate talks

Problems of deficit financing are expected to dominate informal discussions this weekend between central bankers in Basel for Monday's annual meeting of the Bank for International Settlements, European sources said.

Some functions surrounding the meeting are attended by commercial bankers, affording an opportunity for more detailed discussion on the respective roles of commercial banks and official institutions.

Public spending boost for Japan's economy

The Japanese economy would show a "notable" improvement in the next month or two, largely the result of bunched public spending of 5,000,000 million yen (about £1,000m) in the April-June months, Mr. Takeo Fukuda, the Prime Minister, said yesterday.

A third of overseas earnings 'invisible' - "Invisibles" now account for about 11 of every 13 earned by Britain overseas, according to the Treasury's monthly economic progress report published yesterday.

Markets unsure about krona

Quiet descended on the foreign exchange markets yesterday as rumours continued to circulate of a reshuffle of the European snake.

Despite denials that the Swedish krona was about to be devalued, dealers were not convinced and trade slackened. The Swedish currency has continued to be weak although support from central banks helped it up at yesterday's close to kr 4.23 against the dollar.

How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Boots 4p to 173p	Pilkington Bros 5p to 335p
Cowan de Groot 3p to 44p	Rank 5p to 191p
De La Rue 17p to 447p	Redfern Nat 5p to 178p
Fortum & Mason 10p to 450p	Secombe Mar 5p to 245p
Guthrie Corp 5p to 223p	Shell 5p to 334p
Hawthorn L 4p to 66p	Smith, W. H. 'A' 10p to 530p
Liberty 13p to 235p	Sparrow, G. W. 10p to 200p
Liberty 25p to 925p	Thomson Orr 13p to 590p
Malayan Tin 7p to 237p	Tiaguh Jute 2p to 15p
Northern Sec 10p to 86p	Vaux 5p to 302p
De Beers 'Dfd' 7p to 247p	Rio Tinto 5p to 218p
Hamerley 10p to 280p	Sejoles, G. H. 7p to 233p
Messina Trans 6p to 142p	UC Invest 6p to 166p
Minicore 6p to 130p	W'steel Dist 6p to 190p

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Building societies

Defender of the movement's rights

Presiding over a decision to announce a further welcome cut in the mortgage interest rate may seem to the not disinterested spectators of the building society movement, the most important thing any chairman of the Building Societies Association will ever do.

Mr Ralph Stow, who has been in this particular hot seat for just one month, would not disagree with the premise that fixing the correct interest rate structure for societies is important. Of course it is. But there is little doubt that this campaigning, indeed one may say crusading, managing director from the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, has a different order of priorities.

There is, after all, a limit to the extent to which one man, the Chancellor of the Exchequer apart, can exercise any significant influence over interest rates. Mr Stow is much more interested in those areas where he can exert an active influence over events and in his book there is no area more crying out for this than the relationship with the government.

He is a passionate believer in the role of the joint advisory

committee—the regular forum where building society leaders and top civil servants from relevant ministries (Treasury and Environment particularly) meet to exchange views—but feels at present that the partnership is a little one-sided.

The government has asked for and received a great deal of cooperation from the building societies, but in Mr Stow's opinion the government has not reciprocated by helping the societies on issues.

"We want the government to understand that we have got problems," he says, adding rather ominously that we know each other well enough to speak frankly. "We have rights to be defended."

This is an aggressive and distinctly partisan attitude which is going to impress the other building societies, particularly the small and medium-sized ones which are not close to the deliberations of the Building Societies Association. Mr Stow understands their need for reassurance. "A number of societies," he says, "want to feel that the association has teeth." He wants to counter their reaction that "we're in the government's pocket."

If this were merely bluster

and political bravado, it would still be quite remarkable for a building society man to be quite so outspoken. But Mr Stow gives the impression of meaning every word he says. He can substantiate his complaints and shows a determination to redress the balance more fairly between the societies and government.

There are two repeated requests which the societies have made to the Government which have so far evoked no response. And they are requests which will not only ease the lot of building society managers but also those of building society members, the investors and borrowing public.

Head of the list in Mr Stow's opinion is the abolition of stamp duty—which is virtually a straight capital tax on property at the point of conveyance. If this tax were abolished it would, says Stow, ease house purchases.

The second important suggestion is that the £25,000 limit on tax relief should be increased in line with inflation. This cut-off point for mortgage interest relief was introduced in March, 1974, since when there has been no move to raise the threshold albeit that indexation, in a few other areas, has begun to creep in.

Another item high on the building societies' agenda when it comes to joint advisory committee meetings is the need for some form of investment contract to replace the maturing Saver-Saver scheme. The government's own version, of course, is index-linked but the societies have remained with the previous scheme which, as a temporary measure, has been extended a further two years. What Mr Stow would like to see is some form of bond or certificate with built-in tax reliefs or freedom to which SAYE investors can transfer their assets.

Two other areas in which the societies are under attack are so-called "red-lining" where societies are accused of not lending at all within certain inner city quarters; and the multiplicity of branches and societies.

Although it is open to question whether societies do practise red-lining in its strictest sense, there are some inner city areas where Mr Stow feels they are more than justified in not lending—if only to protect their own actions. Lending in his own actions. Lending, however, does indicate how much further along the road of

social lending the societies have travelled.

Red-lining and lending on older properties are all part and parcel of the debate on urban renewal and Stow has some exciting ideas on this theme.

What he would dearly like to see is the societies actively encouraging the development of housing associations with positive help. His most advanced idea is that the societies, perhaps on a regional basis, should second bright young men to go and spend a year working with housing association groups. They would not only be experienced in the legal and financial problems which beset housing groups but could also "put a bit of drive into the concept."

The criticism about the number of building society branches he tends to dismiss by quoting the number of betting shops and shoe shops there are in the country, four times the number of building society offices. Regarding the number of societies, he has some practical ideas as to how the number could be reduced.

"I would like to see the development of building societies," says Mr Stow. "One group which could control the smaller societies which could



"Societies are not a soft touch," says Mr. Ralph Stow, managing director of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, who was recently elected chairman of Building Societies Association.

retain their individual characteristics but gain the financial strength of belonging to a big group." At the moment, once the engagements of a smaller society have been transferred, it can no longer trade under its old name. Again, this suggestion would require government attention although it is not on

any list for immediate action. Now that the mortgage interest rate is to come down again (this time to 10.5 per cent) it seems likely that the searchlight will swing away from building societies. But they will be active behind the scenes, particularly through the agency of the joint advisory committee.

Mr Stow is an aggressive campaigner for what he sees as the rights of building societies and what is more, he is determined that they should not be seen by anyone, least of all the government, as a "soft touch."

Margaret Stow

Taxation: readers ask

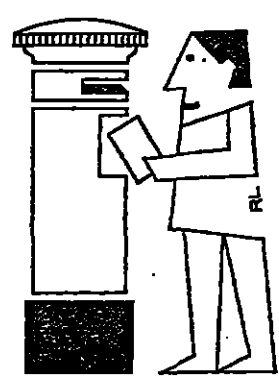
Capital gains and losses

For the past eight weeks this column has been devoted exclusively to the annual chore of filling in the tax return. As a result readers' letters have been sadly neglected. I shall try to make amends by dealing with as many as space permits during the next few Saturdays.

● This week I want to give priority to the questions which have arisen from the tax return articles. On the subject of capital gains one reader would like to know more about the tax rate. He has read the Inland Revenue literature and says: "It seems to me that if the gain is under £5,000 tax is chargeable at half the standard rate, but if the gain is £5,000 or over in any one year the rate rises to 30 per cent. Would you please explain if I have read the return correctly?"

No, not quite. The reader is referring to the alternative method of calculating the tax which can be used if it results in a lower liability than the flat 30 per cent. What happens is that on gains up to £5,000 one-half is treated as investment income (the other half is not taxable). On gains over £5,000, £2,500 plus the whole of the excess over £5,000 is regarded as investment income. The total is liable at the standard rate of 30 per cent and to the investment income surcharge.

In the majority of cases it is only when the combined top tax rate and investment income surcharge reaches 60 per cent that the alternative basis ceases to be beneficial. The upshot is that the alternative basis can produce a liability on the full gain ranging from nil (if personal allowances exceed total income) up to a maximum



house where it has been agreed that capital gains tax is payable on £276 as a result of part business use. He adds: "I am wondering if (the assessment) can be resisted under section 51 of the Finance Act 1976 where relief is given for any chargeable gains arising in any one year which total less than £1,000."

Also it cannot. The misunderstanding of the law on this point is a common one. The small disposals relief (as it is often called) applies where the proceeds (net of expenses) is £1,000 or less, and not the gain. Presumably the proceeds are proportionate to the business use will, in this particular case, be well above the £1,000 limit and is therefore outside the exemption.

● The final query on capital gains raises a different aspect of the small disposals relief. The reader questions whether loss relief can be claimed against gains in future years where the proceeds are below the £1,000 limit.

The answer is that it can—provided there is an overall loss in the year. It is necessary to calculate the gain or loss on each asset, where there is more than one falling within the £1,000 exemption, as only the losses in excess of the gains may be carried forward.

● Turning to income tax, a reader asks: "When calculating the costs of running an office at home and finding the costs by the number of rooms, do you include kitchens and bathrooms, etc. in the number of rooms, or simply bedrooms and living rooms?"

There are no specific rules on this one, but the normal practice is to ignore kitchens, bathrooms and lavatories.

Vera Di Palma

Fixed interest investment

Autumn may be the time for gifts but what to do with your money now

Life for those investors who want to tuck their money away for secure income is somewhat problematic at the moment. Why? Well, because interest rates have plainly stopped falling, and there are strong arguments for waiting a while to see whether it's possible to get a better return later on.

To be sure, the building societies have just put their heads down again. But that, I regret to say, is taken by the cognoscenti as an infallible sign that other interest rates will rise, for the building societies have acquired themselves an unenviable reputation for underpricing.

And though those minimum lending rates and the coupons on local authority negotiable bonds were unchanged last week, the latter at least are now on the level they hit a month ago. Are the rates on certificates of deposit and most other money market instruments?

And the gilt-edged market has recently been in the doldrums. Prices are falling and the yield rising in a way which suggests that the brave new world to which we were all looking forward at the turn of the year was nothing more than an interesting illusion.

By the time, too, you get to the end of the year, you will be in a better position to judge whether British interest rates will be pushed up in order to support sterling on a poor outcome to the phase three pay negotiations and/or any rise in rates in America.

What, in the meantime, are you to do with your money? Well, you certainly don't want to leave it sitting in the bank. Since the gross-up return to depositors in a building society investment account has only dropped to 10 per cent (assuming a 33 per cent basic tax rate), the choice lies between

that and the National Savings Bank Investment account, which provides the same return. The other super-safe alternative is, of course, local authority negotiable bonds. However, the coupon on one year bond was set a week ago and since then local authorities are trying to lengthen the term of their borrowings, and fewer want one-year money. I wouldn't expect it to rise when the next tranche is issued on Tuesday.

Longer dated "negotiable" bonds offer better returns, but the trouble is, they're not as "negotiable" as all that. Although there has been a big increase in the numbers of these three, four and five-year bonds issued in recent months, they're still only a very small part of the total local authority negotiable bond market, and if you try to sell them ahead of their term you might very well have to do so at an unfavourable price.

So if you want to be able to get your money in a hurry, stick with the building society. If it's not so important, then some local authorities are offering relatively attractive rates on their so-called "mortgages", which are not negotiable. Again, this is not the medium for an investment of anything less than a year, since the best you'll get on anything less than £50,000 is 9½ per cent (from North Wilshire and North-East Fife).

But North Wilshire is offering 10½ per cent on a minimum of £500 on a two-year view, and Swansea will give you 12 per cent on a minimum of £12,000 for three years. Assuming that you can lock your money away for a year, seven years, Huntington will give you 12 per cent for it on a minimum investment of £500.

If, however, you are prepared to lock your money away for that long, then I really think you would do better to put it into a local authority stock, the GLC 12½ per cent 1983. It will yield you much the same, but if interest rates come down enough by the turn of the decade to make the income on either really attractive, I think they will—then the latter will also provide you with an option to take some attractive capital gains instead.

Adrienne Gleeson

Consumer credit

Claims on the cards

Anyone holding a Barclaycard or Access card may very soon be able to hold the credit card company responsible for defects in goods bought and paid for by the use of his card. This will be because of a provision (section 75) in the Consumer Credit Act.

For a long time now, a consumer who purchased his goods (often a car) on hire purchase or credit sale terms through a finance company, has had a legal remedy against the finance company if those goods proved defective. Indeed, in such a case it is mainly to the finance company and not to the dealer that the consumer can look for his redress.

Until now, however, that has not been the situation where the goods have been purchased and paid for by the use of a credit card. Of course, the cardholder does have his rights against the dealer (the seller) under the Sale of Goods Act and the new law will not diminish those.

It was thought desirable when the Consumer Credit Act was passed that in certain situations (besides hire purchase and credit sale agreements) the business which provides the finance should be responsible in respect of the goods supplied.

The idea is that this should be so where, broadly speaking, a business connection exists, a business connection providing the finance, and the seller who supplied the goods. The principal example of such a business connection is that between the credit card company and the supplier who honours that company's credit cards.

The persons who are going to benefit are Barclaycard and Access cardholders. The new law will not affect American Express or Diners

Club card holders: because they are required to pay off each account in a single lump sum, the Consumer Credit Act does not apply to them. Nor is the benefit conferred upon someone who uses a cheque guarantee card to persuade the supplier to accept a cheque in payment.

A Barclaycard has a dual function in that, as well as being a credit card, it can also operate as a cheque guarantee card. To have the chance of holding a Barclaycard, answerable in respect of the goods purchased, the customer will need to have used his card as a credit card, and not as a cheque guarantee card.

Both Barclaycard and Access card can be used by the cardholder to obtain a cash advance over the counter at a bank. If this is done and the cash then used to buy goods, cash again there will be no chance of holding the credit card company answerable in respect of the goods. For that to be possible, the card will have to have been used directly as a means of paying the seller.

If it is the exact effect of the law will be as follows: if the cardholder has any claim against the supplier for misrepresentation or for breach of contract (for example, under the Sale of Goods Act), he will be able to make the claim against the credit card company as well as (or instead of) against the supplier. This applies to a claim in respect of any item with a cash price of more than £30 and not more than £10,000.

At first sight the right to claim against the credit card company may seem insignificant since it is not really an enhancement of the customer's rights but merely an addition of another person against whom those rights are enforceable.

One more significant fact, the position will exactly the same where the claim in law is a sound one would be entitled to withhold payment to the extent of claim. Thus he would not be obliged to commence court proceedings. The onus of enforcement would be on the other side.

The new right to claim against the credit card company will no doubt induce many cardholders, who might otherwise have used cash or a cheque, instead to use his card. Furthermore, a cardholder will not be lost if subsequent he pays off the whole standing credit card debt single repayment.

One more significant fact, the position will exactly the same where the claim in law is a sound one would be entitled to withhold payment to the extent of claim. Thus he would not be obliged to commence court proceedings. The onus of enforcement would be on the other side.

There are various ways in which the restriction may be applied, sometimes leaving it to the trustees to approve such a case. This is not entirely satisfactory, because it leaves members approaching retirement with a clear idea of the amount of cash they can expect. It is important for people expecting to retire to make plans well in advance.

If the trustees are prepared to tell members in these circumstances how much cash they would normally allow, they might just as well include an appropriate section in the scheme rules.

Where the rules specify a more restricted right to cash than the Inland Revenue limit, they normally do so in one of two forms: either the maximum cash is defined (like the total pension) in terms of pensionable pay and length of service, or a minimum amount of remaining pension is laid down.

In the former case—defining the maximum cash—the effect becomes very similar to that achieved in schemes where the pension and cash are defined separately. Some schemes restrict the amount of cash to three-eighths of final pay for each year counting for pension, and thus give benefits identical with many schemes with separate definitions, as long as the exchange rate remains the same.

Others may allow a larger amount, but there is no particular logic in any larger figure than three-eighths for each year, if in fact some restriction is imposed. It is, how-

ever, commonplace to apply limit—even if it is the 10 year and a half pay at by the Inland Revenue—pensionable pay on which pension is calculated, and may result in a considerably lower amount than the mited maximum in schemes.

There are problems specifying a minimum of pension to be left, particularly in cases where the member has less than a full with the employer—and means most cases. Some in this situation will have fits from a previous employment which have not been allowed to exit their rights (or part of for a lump sum).

It is almost impossible to frame a rule satisfactorily comes with restrictions, and where it is in this form, it is probably ignored by most employers.

The new bit hard on a with less than 40 years' In the face of all these items, this method of determining of the amount which may be taken, all in theory it appears to be the objective more erol.

Of course, the ideal would be that all retirement financial affairs should be responsibly. People believe they are, some protect necessary for the minor would get it wrong.

Eric Br

M&G RECOVERY FUND

Widely acclaimed by financial journalists and investment advisers, M&G's Recovery Fund, designed to produce capital growth, ended March as Britain's best-performing unit trust over the 12-month and six-year periods. It has a policy of buying the shares of companies that have fallen upon hard times. Many of these companies recover, and through a process of careful selection M&G has been able to bring high rewards over the years to Recovery Fund investors. An investment of £2,000 at the time of the Fund's launch in May 1969 had, at the offered price on 9th June 1977, grown to £4,888 including reinvested income. During this period the F.I. Industrial Ordinary Index, which does not include reinvested income, has gone up by 9.1%.

Investors should regard unit trusts as a long-term investment and not suitable for money needed at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

Net income from the Fund's investments is automatically reinvested for your benefit and at the latest offer price of units of 244.4p on the 9th June 1977 the estimated current gross yield was 5.49%. Prices and yields appear in the F.I. and other leading newspapers daily. The price includes an initial charge of 34% and there is an annual charge of 4% (plus VAT).

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchases or sales will be due for settlement 2 or 3 weeks later. The Trustee is Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited. The Fund is a wider range security authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade. Commission at 1% is payable to accredited agents. M&G is a member of the Unit Trust Association.

TWO WAYS TO INVEST

In addition to investing a capital sum as mentioned above you can start a Regular Monthly Saving Plan through a life assurance policy for as little as £10 monthly, and you are normally entitled to claim tax relief at current rates of £17.50 for each £100 paid. On a £10 Plan, tax relief at present rates can bring down your net monthly cost to only £8.25, with which you buy units worth considerably more.

Regular investment of this type also means that you can take advantage of the inevitable fluctuations in the price of units through Pound Cost Averaging, which gives you a positive arithmetical advantage, because your regular investment buys more units when the price is low and fewer when it is high. You also get the benefit of at least 180 times your monthly payment throughout the period if your age at entry is 54 or under (women 58), and rather less up to 75.

If you cash in or stop your payments during the first four years there is a penalty, and the tax authorities require us to make a deduction, so you should not consider the Plan for less than five years. 81% to 94% (depending on your starting age) is invested each cent in the first two years when an additional 20 per cent is retained to meet selling-up expenses.

M&G is a member of the Life Offices Association. The offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

THE PERFORMANCE OF THE M&G RECOVERY FUND IS REMARKABLE—OVER 66 YEARS IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE TOP 20 TABLE DAILY EXPRESS 9.4.77

TWO WAYS TO INVEST

EITHER £500 Complete this section if you wish to make a lump sum investment from £500.

I WISH TO INVEST £_____ IN ACCUMULATIONS units of the M&G Recovery Fund at the price ruling on receipt of this application. Do not send any money. A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you own and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly. I declare that I am not resident outside the United Kingdom. I am not engaged in a business, profession or occupation, and I am not acquiring the units as the nominee of any person resident outside these territories. (If you are unable to make this declaration you should apply through a bank or stockbroker.)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

OR £10 Complete this section if you wish to make a Regular Monthly Saving (minimum £10 a month).

If you want to save more than £20 per month, or cannot sign Part I of the declaration, delete that part of the declaration and we will send you our standard proposal form, which we will also send to anyone applying over 50.

I WISH TO SAVE £_____ each month in the M&G Recovery Fund. I enclose my cheque for the first monthly payment, payable to M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd.

OCCUPATION _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF USUAL DOCTOR (to whom reference may be made)

Are you an existing M&G Plan holder? Yes/No

Declaration Part I I declare that, to the best of my belief, I am in good health and free from disease, that I have not had any serious illness or injury, and that I do not engage in any hazardous sports or pursuits, that I do not engage in aviation except as a fare-paying passenger on recognised routes, and that no professional or other liability has been or will be incurred by me in connection with this declaration and any declaration made by me in connection with this proposal shall be the basis of the contract between me and M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd, and that I will accept the customary term of policy.

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Registered at England No. 1048393. Reg. Office as above.

FOUNDERS OF BRITAIN'S UNIT TRUSTS

Pensions

Commuting pensions into cash needs watching

Some pension schemes which provide a lump sum for members on their retirement do so by exchanging the exchange of part of the pension for a lump sum. Where the member is entitled to the maximum pension permitted by the Inland Revenue—two-thirds of final pay—then the scheme rules of one-and-a-half times final pay is equivalent to about a quarter of the pension.

There are not many employees who retire with the maximum pension. At the very least, the definition of final pay normally falls short of the most favourable permitted, almost always by selecting a particular year (or the average of a particular period), when some other year would give a better answer, and frequently by excluding overtime, bonus and the like or deducting a fixed amount from pay.

On top of this most schemes give a full pension only to those who have completed 40 years' service, and in many schemes the maximum after this period is less than two-thirds, often one-half.

A scheme with separately defined pension and lump sum will normally provide both at a consistent level and on a consistent basis, but if the lump sum is provided by giving up part of the pension, there may well be no limitation on the amount to be given up other than that imposed by the Inland Revenue. Anyone with 20 years' service or more is then able to give up enough pension to provide one-and-a-half year's pay. To see how this works, consider a man retiring at age 65 with a final salary of £4,500.

If his pension is two thirds, it will be £3,000 a year, of which he will be permitted to exchange £750 a year for a lump sum of £2,250. His remaining pension will be £2,250 a year.

Suppose, as might be typical in a medium-sized firm, that £500 of his pay comes from commission or bonus and is not part of the pensionable salary. If he has £1,000 from the pay for pension purposes to allow for the state pension; and that he spent only 20 years in the scheme and carries only one-eighth part each year. With all the adjustments, the member's pension comes out to £750 a year.

In this case he could, as far as the Inland Revenue is concerned, exchange the whole of his pension for a lump sum (as he has not had any previous employer's pension scheme) giving him, as before, £6,750 in cash, but leaving him with no pension at all.

Of course, there will still be the state retirement pension, and if he invests his £6,750 wisely, he will be better off (because of the tax advantage of the lump sum) than if he had kept the pension. Most pension scheme members do not know a great deal about investments, however, and some may be more likely to spend their money.

Some people will take the view that if the pensioner wants to go on a world cruise and then make do with his state pension, it is wrong to prevent him. Others consider that retiring employees should be required to leave a certain amount of their benefit in pension form. Quite apart from any

social considerations, an employer sets up a pension scheme to look after his employees in their old age, and may feel that this objective is defeated if the whole of the benefit is taken as a lump sum.

Against this, very small pension benefits are of no value at all to the recipient under the present social security rules. If you have nothing to live on apart from the state retirement pension, you will normally be entitled to supplementary benefit. If you have a small pension, it will be knocked off the supplementary benefit on a pound-for-pound basis.

Capital resources above a certain level are taken into account, but no one is discouraged from going on a spree and spending his capital so as to qualify for supplementary benefit again.

You may think all this is socially or morally wrong, but it is the way the social security system works. If you look for a way to get a pensioner out of taking his full ration of cash, if the only effect were to save the national insurance scheme money. The employer might feel he was wasting the money he put into the scheme, too.

If the amount of benefit is larger, however, the position is rather different; it is no longer merely a question of reducing supplementary benefit, but of raising the total income above the extremely modest level which is the target for the supplementary benefit scheme. With this situation in mind, many schemes contain some sort of restriction on the amount

of pension which may be given up.

There are various ways in which the restriction may be applied, sometimes leaving it to the trustees to approve such a case. This is not entirely satisfactory, because it leaves members approaching retirement with a clear idea of the amount of cash they can expect. It is important for people expecting to retire to make plans well in advance.

If the trustees are prepared to tell members in these circumstances how much cash they would normally allow, they might just as well include an appropriate section in the scheme rules.

Where the rules specify a more restricted right to cash than the Inland Revenue limit, they normally do so in one of two forms: either the maximum cash is defined (like the total pension) in terms of pensionable pay and length of service, or a minimum amount of remaining pension is laid down.

In the former case—defining the maximum cash—the effect becomes very similar to that achieved in schemes where the pension and cash are defined separately. Some schemes restrict the amount of cash to three-eighths of final pay for each year counting for pension, and thus give benefits identical with many schemes with separate definitions, as long as the exchange rate remains the same.

Others may allow a larger amount, but there is no particular logic in any larger figure than three-eighths for each year, if in fact some restriction is imposed. It is, how-

ever, commonplace to apply limit—even if it is the 10 year and a half pay at by the Inland Revenue—pensionable pay on which pension is calculated, and may result in a considerably lower amount than the mited maximum in schemes.

There are problems specifying a minimum of pension to be left, particularly in cases where the member has less than a full with the employer—and means most cases. Some in this situation will have fits from a previous employment which have not been allowed to exit their rights (or part of for a lump sum).

It is almost impossible to frame a rule satisfactorily comes with restrictions, and where it is in this form, it is probably ignored by most employers.

The new bit hard on a with less than 40 years' In the face of all these items, this method of determining of the amount which may be taken, all in theory it appears to be the objective more erol.

Of course, the ideal would be that all retirement financial affairs should be responsibly. People believe they are, some protect necessary for the minor would get it wrong.

Eric Br

for's week

MAIN RISES AND FALLS OF THE WE

[illegible]

are being put off until later. Whether the Government will be able to negotiate a round of pay restraint remains unclear.

Despite the good concern about the need to reduce inflation, it will have to be much more than its predecessor if they still regard the phase of regulation as the future progress of the economy. The Government's policy in the sector in particular, time being, at least, dropping, a cautious approach over the last couple of years appear to have had little effect.

The T index now stands at 100, below the high point in its recent phase, and observers who saw last intention to lift dividend as the spur to an increased advance in the market were wildly off. But the last selling

influence on the market's performance in the coming weeks will be the traditionally slack holiday period and in these conditions little substantial progress seems likely.

In the gilt-edged market, most eyes are on the latest report and the nervousness this inspired lowered prices by up to three-quarters of a point. The bright exception came yesterday when the price of more than 500,000 of the Government's encouraging monetary figures.

The success of the novel variable rate stock continues and reports suggest that about £250m of the £400m total issue has now been sold. Following the example of the last few weeks ago, BP applied for exemption from dividend restraint in a move which many saw as an attempt to provide a further cushion for the forthcoming £800m Government borrowing. But the application was refused

and the shares, lost with the stock which turned down, lower 534p in sympathy.

For food retailers, an impressive set of figures was not enough to stop them from making moves following the demand of Government. Stamps rekindled "a" in the night, showing like Sainsbury's 180p, the new 25p, Tesco itself 571p.

The food sector is the outstanding bit of the three days with Marks & Spencer 571p, Sainsbury's 571p, and the new fellow meat trader, Bordwick which is but unsuccessful in control of FMC.

Day

How much household power do you need?

...holders feel that the process of calculating premiums is because too complicated, there are serious risks that insurers may be under-

household insurance are calculated by a predetermined rate of insured value of the contents. And stipulation that the value must be the full replacement (although reduction is allowed for depreciation) is based on the claim for the full value, less than the cost of replacing it would be (in view of its age).

It is a convenient way of dealing at premiums when they are reasonably steady, but it is a serious disadvantage in the case of an unfair build. After all, what it happens to be a sur- builder; it can be very difficult to calculate how much would cost to rebuild.

On an insurance company able to give general information to the lines of so many square foot of floor space depends on such factors as the type of construction, the location, type of construction, and so on. At the time the owner is being put to the holder to find out the cost of rebuilding the house, the insurer can figure that the insurers can figure in their pre-

motor insurance, some

" Obviously, the floor area of a house is im-

years ago insurers eliminated the value of individual cars as a rating factor—thus saving the extra expense for themselves and their policyholders. Now, some insurers are thinking how they could insure the buildings of private houses by the same method. It will be more difficult to come up with an answer for the contents of private houses.

After all, it should be possible to decide on the information which would be needed. Each factor could be allocated a certain number of points according to individual circumstances, with the premiums each year calculated on the total number of points. Each year or more frequently, in the light of repair costs, the company could amend the premium per point which it would require.

One way, of course, of obtaining information on the number the company's computer could calculate the premium needed each year to insure one's house, as happens at present with motor insurance.

One company, the Northern Star, has tackled this subject by introducing a policy where the premium depends solely on the floor area of the house. It is even allowing the number of rooms in the house if it is difficult to assess the floor area accurately.

The advantage of arrangement is that it not have to calculate insured, or risk, the value of even a small reduction as a result of insurance. The insurance is saved ad work, and knows that insurers, so far, are paying their "fair" pool of premium.

Obviously, the floor area is important. Other factors I would see used in premiums are the type of house (for example, a storey, whether or semi-detached), type of location (which can be whether there is a pool (since this insured).

So far, a lot of gone into trying to scheme for insuring so as to eliminate the actual value without much success. If information is not seems to be more or an estimate of the value, then, insurers are to work on this of information is not this area of insurance.

John Dr

trust performance

ISTS: Medium and Income funds (progress this year and years). Unitholder index 1582.5; rise from January 1, 1983.

Percentage offer to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: over past three years: +37.5%.

Pearl Income
Frankington Income
Ionian Income, M
Linda Wall Extra Inc
Key Income
Henderson, High Inc
Gartmore, High Inc

A	B	Mutual Security Plus	13.4	46.5	Carlok High Yield	13.4
Private	102.2	British Life	13.3	49.2	Carlok High Yield	13.4
Trust	-2.2	Brown Werlin	17.8	31.1	Allied Ham High Yield	13.4
Cap F	71.1	London Wall S/Hold	13.0	40.6	Antony Income	13.4
Asses	32.6	Union Capital	12.2	35.7	Antony Gbls Income	13.4
Trust	28.8	Hamro Fund	12.6	46.9	Antony Gbls Income	13.4
General	23.6	Hill Samuel	11.8	45.9	Antony High Yield	13.4
Trust	23.6	Tyddall Capital	11.9	27.7	Profitic High Yield	13.4
Equity	26.5	Ulster Bank Growth	11.9	38.6	Profitic High Yield	13.4
Trust	25.6	Cabot	11.8	28.4	S & P Dividend	13.4
Income	22.5	Canaco General	11.8	34.5	Profitic High Yield	13.4
Trust	22.5	Family Fund	11.6	53.7	Hill Samuel High Yield	13.4
Income	24.1	Jacort Sect Leads	11.4	60.4	Union Extra Inc	13.4
Trust	24.1	Intex	10.8	50.0	Abbey Income	13.4
Income	22.2	S & P Scotchies	10.8	50.0	Argyle Equivore	13.4
Trust	22.2	M & G General	10.4	37.7	Hamro Income	13.4
Income	22.2	Bishopsgate Prog F	10.2	28.9	Cartmore Income	13.4
Trust	22.2	Tyddall Inc Earnings	9.9	53.1	Michael Drayton Inc	13.4
Income	21.6	Canaco	9.7	53.1	Argyle Equivore	13.4
Trust	21.6	Minster	9.5	14.5	Capital Income	13.4
Income	20.7	Trades Union	9.2	51.6	Ansbacher Inc Mth M	13.4
Trust	20.7	S & P UK Equity	9.0	40.0	National West Inc	13.4
Income	20.4	Windsor Fund M	8.7	32.7	Argyle Equivore	13.4
Trust	20.4	Glen Fund	7.9	13.9	Ansbacher Inc	13.4
Income	19.9	Wickmore	7.6	39.9	Argyle Equivore	13.4
Trust	19.9	Mumal 'Brise Chip'	7.5	35.3	Argyle Equivore	13.4
Income	19.6	Stewart British	6.5	19.9	S & P High Return	13.4
Trust	19.6	Piccadilly Inc/Grow	5.5	0.3	Britanna Inc & Gwth	13.4
Income	19.2	Piccadilly Inc/Earnings	5.1	24.0	Britanna High Yield	13.4
Trust	18.9	Oceanic General	4.7	3.2	Oceanic High Inc	13.4
Income	18.9	Scottish Equitable	3.8	1.1	Argyle Bank Third	13.4
Trust	18.9	Worldwide	3.1	—	Hill Samuel Income	13.4
Income	17.7	S & P Ebor General	2.3	34.0	Lawson High Yield	13.4
Trust	17.7	Piccadilly Accumulator	1.9	25.8	New Court Income	13.4
Income	16.8	National West Growth	1.6	46.8	Alben Income	13.4
Trust	16.8	College Hill	1.5	—	Britanna Extra Inc	13.4
Income	16.6	Royal Trust Income	0.8	—	Charterhouse Income	13.4
Trust	16.6	Ionian Growth F	0.5	6.9	S & P Income	13.4
Income	16.4	Argyle General	0.5	44.1	British Life Dividend	13.4
Trust	16.4	Banquingham	0.5	44.3	Prudential Income	13.4
Income	16.3	Marlborough	-0.3	25.5	Prudential Income	13.4
Trust	16.3	Compositional Gwth	-3.5	27.3	Nat & Comm Inc F	13.4
Income	16.3	Great Winchester M	-15.5	1.7	Tyddall Scottish Inc	13.4
Trust	16.3	INCOME	A	—	S & P Scotchies	13.4
Income	15.2	London Wall High Inc	33.7	78.0	Canlife Income	13.4
Trust	15.2	M & G High Income	29.8	87.3	S & P Income	13.4
Income	14.9	GT Income	23.4	88.2	Britanna High Yield	13.4
Trust	14.9	Statistics supplied by Money-Management and Unitholder			Trident Income	13.4
Income	14.8	Square, London, EC2				
Trust	14.0	A: Change since June 3, 1976 offer to bid, income return				
Income	13.8	since June 3, 1976 offer to bid, income return				
Trust	13.8	taken to June 9, 1977.				
Income	13.7	M: Trust valued monthly.				

Stock markets

A little late interest for the next account lifted the FT Index more than two points after 3 pm and it closed 2.6 in interest rates are both speculative favourite, was hit by profit-takers and lost 4p to 158p, but the previous day's approach Toy group, continued to interest and rose a new "high"

But over the three-week account it lost 11.9 and in the three trading days since the bubble broke, 8.4.

Earlier, money-supply figures were somewhat less expected and the quarterly balance of payments had given both the equity and gilt-edged market an initial boost.

Among the industrial leaders, Metal Box continued to draw strength from its figures, gaining another 4p to 324p, while profits from glassmaker Pilkington inspired a 5p gain to 355p.

On the other side of the split, Hawker Siddeley firmed 6p to 622p, but Lucas came under some pressure at 295p.

After the setback of the pre-

news had British Electronic Controls ahead 2p to 20p. Those losing ground were Carandance after the abortive talks and Anglo-Siam & Co., which was lowered 2p to 145p in the absence of a further news move from hire-purchase group Lloyds & Scottish.

After the dividend boost accompanied a plus rights issue, whisky distiller Arthur

Dealers think that prices, and a lot of trading profits, will be made in the next week. It union problem down the full Marmite & Car

Hildday Simpson has placed the Bank Bridge 41 per cent rise in the last year, the range of £50m, against

Latest results					
Company	Sales fm	Profits fm	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date
Int'l Oil & Gas	—	0.59 (0.3)	—	4.35	—
Arthur Bell (I) **	—	0.65 (0.81)	2.61 (4.39)	0.96 (0.96)	—
Hellenic & Cyp (F)	—	—	—	5/8	5/8
Maravelia (I)	—	—	—	22 (13)††	5/8
De La Rue (F)	172.92 (126.43)	24.43 (19.8)	67.5 (28.1)	10.53 (9.58)	5/8
Leasing Rate by the cloud	—	4.15 (1.9)	6.5 (2.6)	3.75 (2.25)	15/7
Freighton (F)	1.28 (0.89) (F)	—	—	—	—
Intercontinental (F)	31.46 (23.07)	—	—	0.12 (9.3)	—
Intercontinental (F)	5.46 (5.24)	0.09 (0.07)†	—	0.42 (1.6)	—
A. Kennedy (F)	1.16 (1.4)	0.15 (0.11)	10.25 (6.54)	12.7 (7.6)	15/7
F. Long (F)	1.66 (12.16)	—	—	57 (0.53)	—
Vaal Reefs (I)	—	—	—	55 (50)††	5/8

Equity dealers see the Government's placing of BP shares widely expected to come later than they thought. The hurdle to be surmounted before further progress can be made.	
In the longer run, the Phase Three negotiations are now seen to have far more significance in market-making.	
Until the likely outcome of the bargaining and the trend	

By Nicholas Hirst. **Pillington Brothers** has followed its trebled first-half profits with a correspondingly less effect than seas. But compared with 50 per cent overseas sale a jump of a fifth in the U

pected 37 per cent gain in the second half for a total of £62.7m against £34.6m before tax.

As the recession world-wide ceased so royalty income has continued to grow, but from a lower base. The total of £1.2m of profits in the first half of 1979/75, its contribution in the 12 months to March 31 had fallen to less than 50 per cent.

The explanation is in the shift of the company's trading activities, particularly overseas. Losses in Australia had been eliminated, Canada, although disappointing has improved and the new float line in Sweden was producing a profit for the first time.

The loss elimination has helped cut the tax charge from the 59 per cent of the previous year to 47 per cent, with an additional 29.3 per cent reduction as a consequence of implementing EED 19, which also results in a 10 per cent reduction.

At home the rise in volume was smaller and had conse-

quently Kingdon was still enough push trading profits £13.2m to £23.5m while overseas profits more than doubled from £4.8m to £10.7m.

While all divisions are doing well, the UK, Kingdon, glass for construction cannot have improved markedly given the state of the industry.

With the construction industry remaining flat, however, the Pilkingtons probably been seen for the being, although gains from capacity, the development which, with exchange of mces, pushed borrowings from £90m to £108m, and the £1.2m of profits has come leaves room for a reasonable gain in profits this year.

A 5p gain in the share 355p with the maximum limited gross dividend for year of 16.0p (14.4p) giving a yield of 41 per cent earnings, stated as ending at 24.8p.

Exports help Wedgwood

Tollemache Raytheon negotiating t

doubles at half-way

By Our Financial Staff

Following the record results of 1975-76, Tollenmache & Coburn sold their stock at a profit. Indeed, pre-tax profits for the half-year to March 31 more than doubled to \$1,108,000, compared with \$478,000 last time.

Turnover was up from \$6.4m to \$7.64m. In the year to September 30 last, pre-tax profits were \$702,000, up from \$420,000 in 1972-73. The big first-half rise stemmed mainly from the fact that the winter decline in beer sales was not repeated, and that sales of wines and spirits were also "considerably better" and this particularly benefited the profits of Tollemache's retail shops. These factors have restored the profit to the levels of the previous year.

Rashley the interim payment.

man of Raytheon and Mr O. Wayne Crisman, head of Falcon jointly announced preliminary talks towards a deal whereby Raytheon could be bought by Raytheon.

They added that no concrete offer had yet been made and no assurance of one could be given. Shareholders in both companies would be asked to vote.

Raytheon's subsidiaries include Seismograph Service Corporation and The Badger Company and it owns a C Cossor and Sterling Cable in England.

Borg-Warner also

Boston analysts have told that the second year earnings of Borg-Warner (chemicals, electrical and engineering) but dustrial and steel products as well as transport equipment including automatic

Avis has new Fuqua bid

The bidding for Avis, the world's second largest car renting group grows keener. Fuqua Industries, a Georgia based conglomerate in leisure, sports equipment and trucking has now announced a tender offer for 47 per cent of Avis at \$20.25 a share. It has also raised its terms for the other 53 per cent of Avis in public hands to \$20.75 in a tax free package of Fuqua common and convertible stock. The offer for the stock held by

sion) will be better year's. So a new rec way. Mr James chairman of a matching pool showing (\$1.26) de recent sale of 2n Robert Bosch G world's largest inde tion, industrial and services sectors take On the debt side stoppages and slugg plastics and business

to over £3m
By Desmond Quigley
Tanganyika Concessions,

whose main asset is a 17½ per cent holding in the Belgian steel group Union Minière. Its increased pre-tax profits by £2m per cent from £2.22m to £3.22m in the year to end-December.

Union Minière contributed £2.22m of the total dividend and interest income of £3.44m in 1976. Its 1976 tax cost was a total of £2.79m in the previous year.

Tanganyika Concessions also has a substantial investment portfolio, which the last annual report shows was heavily orientated towards North American natural resources stocks.

Last year further income came from the profit on sale of copper, which amounted to £208,601. The company was a £208,601 exchange gain.

The second interim dividend has been increased to 10.77p a share gross to lift the total by 10 per cent to 16.52p a share gross. Yesterday the shares led to 130p where they yield 13 per cent.

However the latest Exposure Draft No 19 to replace SSAP11 has been adopted. This has

brought a substantial reduction in the tax charge of about £2m and of some £1.5m for the previous year. Using SSAP11 earnings a share at 37.8p against an adjusted 31.7p would have been 24.5p compared with 21.9p.

At year-end capital employed increased from £29.7m to £33.4m, financing of fixed assets

International

the Trustee and the public is worth \$162.1m. The trustee stock is beneficially owned by International Telephone and Telegraph which was ordered to divest itself as part of an agreement with the United States Justice Department. Until now the Court Trustee has favoured Norton Simon.

well as transport equipment including automatic transmission) will be better than last year's. So a new record is on

the way, Mr. James R. Bere, chairman, is also confident of a matching per share showing (\$1.26) despite the recent sale of 2m shares to Robert Bosch GMBH, the world's largest independent auto parts producer including fuel injection equipment. Air conditioning, industrial and financial services sectors take the credit. On the debit side are work stoppages and sluggishness in chemicals, plastics and farming business.

by Tony May


ons and Peru-based company. The board has proposed a one-for-five rights issue at 200p share—which compares with 440p in the market after a 6p rise. The issue is aimed at raising £5.3m and is underwritten by Morgan Grenfell.

Using the freemium comes with the rights issue, the board is raising the dividend for the six months to June 30 from 9.97p to 6.69p gross and intends to pay a total of 14.72p gross or the end of June 1976.

On prospect, Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman, says that despite the fall in market demand at home, the current year has started well in the aircraft whisky division, and the company's sales of its 1975 container dividend in the second half of 1976 is continuing in the current year. The board forecasts that pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 will be £3.6m, compared with £2.3m.

With its markets continuing to expand, the group needs to

lay down more and more capital to meet future demand. The group is continuing to equip and modernize their series of its Canning Town subsidiary. Demand for the company's products continues to rise.



Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman of Arthur Bell & Sons.



Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman
of Arthur Bell & Sons.

BACK TO WORK

Now that Liner Concrete Machinery has agreed to be treated as an associate company,

On sales up 36 per cent to £1.4m, pre-tax profits are 25 per cent up at £103m for the year to February 28. Of this, associates accounted for £53,000, compared with £56,000 last year, and £822,000 if Liner had been an associate at that

will start to the year. Sales for the first two months have totalled £6.2m.

On sales up from £9.01m to £10.85m, pre-tax profits of London-based Rotaprint edged upward from £401,000 to £111,000 in the year to April 2. Interest charged on profits was virtually unchanged at £176,000, against £175,000 last time. Shareholders collect an unchanged total gross payment of £0.2n. Earnings per share rose

over 1.2m for first
me at T. Locker
More than recouping the fall

the previous 12 months, pre-tax profits of Thomas Locker Holdings) climbed by 34.7 per cent to a best-ever £2.02m in the year to March 31. Profits include the group's share of the income from Associated Refractories and Weavers, which rose up from £167,000 to £249,000. Group turnover was 29.9 per cent ahead at £15.65m. The total gross payment rises from 1.08p to 1.19p. Locker is a Warrington-based general engineering group.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM
MR. BRYAN TOYE'S**

STATEMENT

RESULTS

The results for the year review were very much anticipated by the fore made last year and as conf my half-year statement group trading profit. taxation was £103,928 as arded with £24,831 in the

which is a reasonable improvement when taking price constraint and the general level of the national economy

DIVIDEND
The Board recommends an increase in the dividend from 6% to 3.25%, which equates to a decrease from 0.65p per share to 0.8125p per share, and the treasury has given its approval to the increase.

FORECAST
Sales this year are going

However, the prosperity

However, the prosperity of our Country, and indeed of our Company, is totally dependent upon the ability of the M. Government to control and materially reduce the present disastrous rate of inflation, to create an atmosphere of confidence in the mind of the foreigner and to bring about conditions of stability in Britain.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Leopold Joseph seek ways of assets' return in four trusts

By Ray Maughan

Leopold Joseph Holdings, the merchant banking and investment group headed by Sir Hugh Leopold, is exploring ways of returning to shareholders the full value of the underlying assets in the four trusts it manages.

The four trusts are the 19.7 per cent-owned Anglo-Welsh Investment Trust (Continuation), Leopold Joseph Investment Trust, 19.3 per cent-owned, New Hibernia Investment Trust, where Leopold Joseph Holdings controls 12.7 per cent, and the 7.8 per cent-

owned Theoct Investment Trust.

To facilitate the operation, it was announced yesterday, the trusts' holdings, totalling around 9.5 per cent of Leopold Joseph, have been placed through the market with institutional investors.

The trusts are the 19.7 per cent-owned Anglo-Welsh Investment Trust (Continuation), Leopold Joseph Investment Trust, 19.3 per cent-owned, New Hibernia Investment Trust, where Leopold Joseph Holdings controls 12.7 per cent, and the 7.8 per cent-

Two major Anglo-Welsh shareholders, controlling 20 per cent in aggregate, requisitioned an extraordinary meeting last month, intended to direct the board to convert Anglo-Welsh into a unit trust. But, just as it did in 1974 when S. Schwab did the secondary bank buy-out of Anglo-Welsh, the board resisted with the statement that it was "not aware of any circumstances which would cause it to change its previously held view that unitization would not be in the best interests of shareholders".

Overall turnover so far in 1977 is substantially higher than last year, in spite of shop sales, particularly in clothing, being relatively flat.

INTEREUROPEAN PROPERTIES

First profits from inter-European property holdings United States business helped the group cut the 21.3m loss in the second half of last year to a pre-tax loss of 15.1m in the six months to January, 1977. But trading profits were eclipsed by interest charges of 51.5m.

PETROLEOS MEXICANOS

Petroleos Mexicanos is to float a US\$500m Eurobond issue at a coupon indication of 9 per cent. Lead manager is Swiss Bank Corporation (Luxembourg).

J. J. DEWINTER HOLDINGS

First profits for half year to July 15 should be over £5m (4.26m) and pre-tax profits close to £500,000 (£409,000). For full year sales should reach £10 million and profits be "hopefully over £1m for first time".

GARNAR SCOTBLAIR

Company has made a recommendation to acquire Derby Hide & Skin for £56,000.

Foreign Exchange

Apart from Scandinavians, currencies moved narrowly throughout the day yesterday in very quiet pre-weekend trading. The pound managed a four-point improvement to 1.7185 against the dollar, while its effective level in the currency kept at 61.6.

The dollar was finally unchanged at 2.3559 against the mark. Belgian franc 36.06, and showed minor falls in terms of Swiss francs 2.4910 (2.4920), and French francs 4.9455 (4.9465). Steady for much of the session, the guilder eased late to 2.4705 (2.4685).

Scandinavians continued comparatively active following recent falls of alignment within the snake, and after weakening further at first, staged a recovery with the aid of some central bank intervention. Swedish and Norwegian crowns ended with marginal improvements, but Danish were lower. The yen charted a steady course after its recent firmness.

Gold eased by \$0.25 to close in London at \$140.25.

Spot Position of Sterling

Spot Position	
of Sterling	
Market rates	Market rates
day's average	16:00
June 10	June 10
New York	1.7185-1.7190
Montreal	1.7185-1.7190
London	1.7185-1.7190
Frankfurt	1.7185-1.7190
Paris	1.7185-1.7190
Brussels	1.7185-1.7190
Copenhagen	1.7185-1.7190
Amsterdam	1.7185-1.7190
Stockholm	1.7185-1.7190
Oslo	1.7185-1.7190
Stockholm	1.7185-1.7190
Oslo	1.7185-1.7190
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Subdued end to account

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Weekend

by Sheila Black



Mappin and Webb is so often synonymous with silver and jewelry that all too few people remember it as a gift shop which is not prohibitively expensive but which specializes in classic designs and, often, classic objects like clocks, briefcases and handbags although you can also find some enchanting and out-of-the-ordinary there too.

Take this clutch of handbags. Two are of lizard and one of canvas with leather, which is either in shades of brown and cream or navy and white. The main handbag colour and the edging trim can be reversed so that either brown or cream predominates or, obviously, either white or navy. This is the most expensive model, perhaps surprisingly, at around £45 but fixed gift chains allow these bags to be worn from the arm or shoulder by day and clutched, with the chain inside the bag, for evening or more formal times. This bag keeps its shape and can hardly date.

The classic one with handles and with the clip fastening at top is another that will never date and it is really excellent value at £19.50—I think you would find it difficult to see its equivalent at that price elsewhere. Of lizard on an excellent frame that will help to keep the shape for literally years, it is in black, navy or brown and should pre-empt the need for any other bag. The price is £19.50 and it will take you to Ascot or, less formally, to meetings on Ascot Heath.

I know that many of you will not want a lizard bag unless reassured that the lizards are "farmed" so as to ensure their continued existence, being concerned with preserving all species on this earth. Others will need to be reassured that the lizards are humanely reared and killed. They are.

For those who are content to know these facts, let me add that the handbags have matching briefcases—for those who

still could not use or wear lizard at any price, read on. The briefcases are also of lizard with rather fine markings, not of the same rather more familiar lizard as the handbags but you can often do without a handbag when needing to use a briefcase, so the idea that they need to match can be forgotten. As for men, their handbags are usually smaller and able to fit inside the briefcase or hang from the wrist.

The briefcases are beautifully fitted inside, trimmed with smooth leather and finished off with combination locks. No need for keys, only for a memory for the numbers which make up the opening combination. There are ways of ensuring that nobody else finds the combination—what do we all do about our banking card numbers? I am certainly not telling how mine are recorded. The briefcase costs £79.95; regrettably, £80 is a fairly average price for better briefcases. Find them at all branches of Mappin and Webb around Britain (see the local telephone book).

For much cheaper and functional briefcases, if Mappin's will forgive me, go to W. H. Smith which usually has a really good selection. Boots, in their larger stores, does pretty well and so do some of the luggage shops.

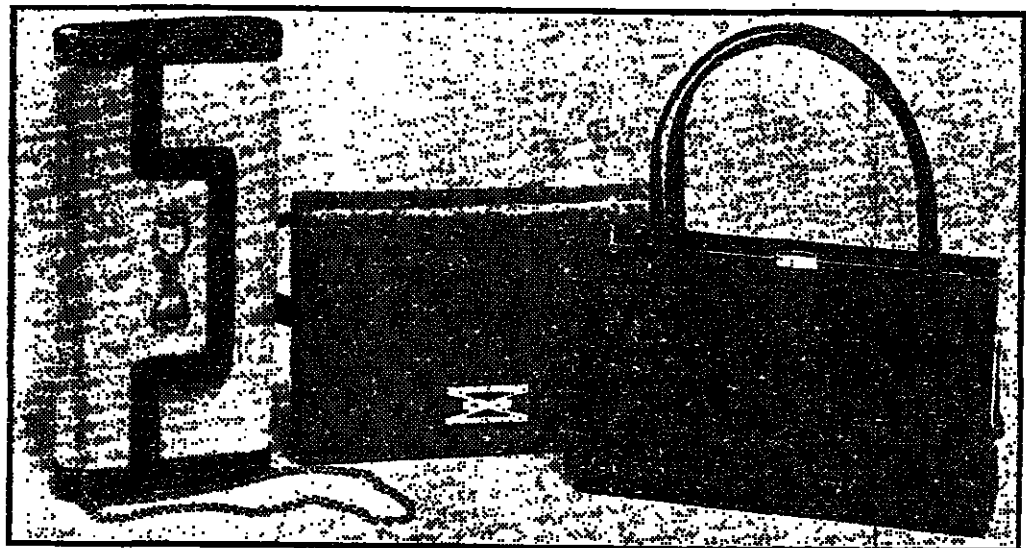
You can buy matching belts at Mappin's at £18 for double-sided designs so that you can turn the belt to brown or beige, to brown or black, to navy blue or red and so on—that, to me, seems expensive, but good belts with good buckles are beginning to cost a lot everywhere. Curiously, I think that many of the familiar medium prices are disappearing and we are stuck with little choice between what is really inexpensive—the word "cheap" is no longer possible—and what is really expensive but good value. Sadly for the many who cannot afford them, the quality lines are often

the best value, but what do you then do about the vagaries of fashion except settle for the permanent, classic, timeless styles.

I promised a word for those who will not wear lizards even when the reptiles are humanely farmed. I am sure that most already know about Beauty without Cruelty of 40 Marylebone High Street, London, W.1. They compile lists of cosmetics which contain no animal ingredients and of synthetic materials which involve no killing for "furs" simulated leathers and suedes, etc. Telephone 01-496 2845 for details. Just one word of warning—please do not write to me if you feel impatient about lizard handbags; I am on the basis of live and let live. I am here to serve as many as possible and I refuse to be named because I recommend good value in lizard bags.

While on the subject of conservation, I am a great devotee of the Conservation Society and believe in their credo that life depends upon subtle relationships between earth, water, air and sunlight so that all must be done that can be to preserve the proper balance. They build up a library of books, published by themselves or by better-known commercial publishers, on the subject of preservation but with an extraordinarily wide range of subjects and approaches.

The books are often sold at prices well below those in the shops—they send a cheaply produced list of titles and you can help the Society's work merely by buying although many also do subscribe—there is never the slightest pressure for subscriptions, by the way. The Society's attitude to town and home planning is sensibly constructive rather than destructive, recognizing the need for building as much as the essential requirements of green open spaces. The Society is one organization, their bookkeeping division another, although the latter exists to help the former which is trying to teach us to help ourselves and our descendants. For book lists, write to Conservation Books at 228 London Road, Reading, Berkshire RG6 1AB. They can also give you the Society's address.



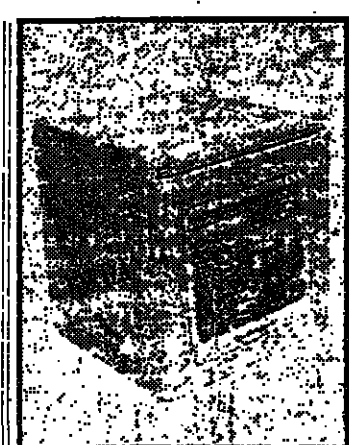
This is centenary year for Wimbledon, a special Jubilee of its own. The official souvenir programme of Wimbledon can be bought even if you do not go there. A well-produced and colourful book for all tennis lovers, it runs to 62 pages and the covers, including articles and advertisements that are also useful. Buy it at W. H. Smith or Menzies shops for 90p or send £1 to Wimbledon 1877-1977, 35-36 Great Marlborough Street, London, W1X 9X7. Make cheques payable to Wimbledon Centenary Magazine.

Limited edition collectors might like to know of a Wimbledon centenary book by David Paradine Developments, whose reputation for superb production is widely known. Their 100 Years of Wimbledon is written by Lance Tingay, lavishly illustrated, and every copy is signed by Fred Perry. It costs £84.

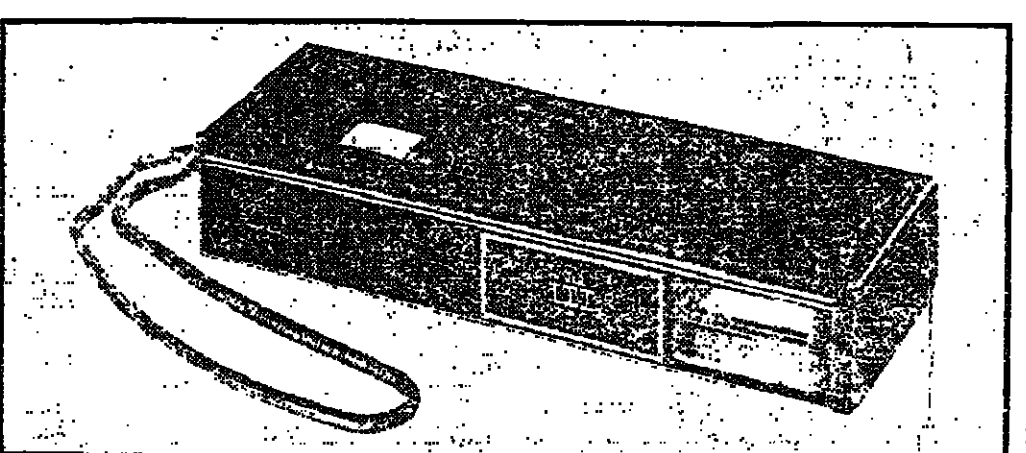
Details from DPD at Audley House, 9 North Audley Street, London, W1Y 1WF (01-629 3793).



One of the nicer Jubilee mugs I have seen is hardly a Jubilee mug at all. It is made by William Adams of the Wedgwood group. A black design of a dancing cockney family in Pearly gear—King, Queen and presumably knave since one looks young and roguish, adorned in their pearly outfits, are in glossy black and white on a white ground. Distinctive and different, it costs £1.40 and will be sold only during Jubilee year after which all appropriate artwork will be destroyed. From many leading department stores and Wedgwood stockists.



Buy your own tea chest, or its little replica as photographed here. It holds 1½ of tea which I confess to not having tasted and about which I have little information except that it is a high-quality tea now on sale in these chests from top hotels and airports and has been air-freighted from Kenya. But it is a lovely pack and would make a pleasing gift at £3. The wooden box has a foil lining so the tea must be worth proper keeping. Marketed by the London Tea and Produce Company, 9 Gee's Court, Oxford Street, London W1.



A Kodak devotee from way back, despite my attempts to prove to them that I can be a fool with a foolproof camera, I was interested when my aide, Doreen, tried out a new Magicflash camera from IIT Photo Products.

She did well, too. True, she managed to get some devastatingly uninteresting backgrounds like a plain garden fence and a line of washing which did little for her

subjects. And she did manage to get her people to one side of an otherwise not very pretty scene. She has obviously been doing what I used to—although I have tried to improve since the days of costly film.

But this I must say. Her photos were excellent, with everything in sharp focus and with superb colour. All automatically done for her inside the little, slim pocket camera with its own built-in flash. The fact that it works on

inexpensive batteries means that it gives the equivalent of one "free" flash picture in every five. Magicflash costs £29.95 and is a neat little thing especially when you do not have to carry the flash bulb about. Between now and the end of August, you might qualify for £1 discount since coupons are appearing with the advertisements enticing buyers to just that. It is at Boots, major chemists and camera shops.



Photographs by Peter Akhurst

Handmade leather handbags are rarely fashionable things, but they can look very sporty and sturdy, good for fishing bags, or county shows and the like. Handmade satchels and granny bags, plus other carrying bags, can also be imbued with a certain rugged charm but I would go for the formal, machined leather variety myself, unless I loved working with leather and I had lots of spare time and no money instead of too little of either or both.

If you want to try your hand at leather, there are plenty of craft shops for you but few that specialize like the leathersmiths and luggage firm of Barrow Hepburn. This company opened a craft shop, indeed a craft division, as a natural offshoot of its large commercial enterprise.

The Leather Store is at 205 Kensington High Street, London, W8, fast becoming a kind of craftsman's Mecca with Reeves, and others, nestled among the larger shops and with a wonderful branch of The Booksmith, that place for bargain books, handy for works of reference. I remember when the Backers-Biba end of Ken High was the busy and fashionable end. Busy it still is but the shops down towards the Commonwealth Centre (where Oxfam has a superb branch) and the Earls Court Road has become the exciting and nowadays so that even going to Ryman's for new typewriter ribbons can be fun.

At the Leather Store, you might start with a very simple but effective moccasin kit in any size and starting at £4.95 which may sound a lot but which does contain everything you need except your own labour for a very good pair of ankle-high moccasins. Belts are good, too, as are some of the buckles and fastenings. You can buy everything you need in the way of punches and tools and kits for the young which feature Wild Bill Hickok's styles and a holster. You can make sandals and, oddly, leather Dalmatians (in kit form) or sheaths for the knives I am sure you regularly carry. I can laugh since my favourite kitchen knife is a hunting knife that hangs in a leather sheath.

I like the idea of making shoes for babies or early toddlers as more original presents than the eternal knitted jacket: and I love, for the young and slender, the Indian-style fringed skirts as well as the carved leather with sculpture-looking flower or other patterns that need a lot more skill with hands than I could ever achieve. They run an efficient mailorder service so you can buy from all over Britain if you write for the catalogue and you can even sew suede and leather on your machine, using the needles they recommend and designing the pattern to include a good deal of thinking because it looks nice and is strong.

No leatherwear is cheap but you would find that a good pair of suede trousers made of components from Barrow Hepburn would work out at around £20 while a tougher, easier-to-maintain leather pair would be about £30. The tabard in the photograph, ideal for men or women, boys or girls, is about £10 or £15 while the skirt works out around £25 and £35. Bikinis in suede are adorable for the thin and start from about £4.75 while plain fringed tunic tops or tank tops are from about £8 to £10.

For those with the right figure for suede or leather, Midnight Blue has just the right sort of clothes. Their jeans are from above £10 to £25 but are really very good. I speak as one who traces jeans, but then I could not wear them. Their separates are many and varied, at all price ranges, many very cheap, but including the different, delightful and rather expensive. There are masses of French and Italian styles. Very much for leisure wear as long as you think that must be chic, for chic is Midnight Blue's style and their taste is good. Some of the clothes are mildly outrageous, some just pretty, most of them as much fun as the shops which do create an easy, relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Midnight Blue? Because two of the shops stay open until midnight and the atmosphere is best after normal shopping hours. The two are at 76 Old Brompton Road and at 186 Falmham Road, London. The third branch, at 90 Brompton Road, closes at 6 pm but is near enough to its later stationmaster for that to be no disadvantage at all. They all open at 10 am.

You can make your own leather lines and be delighted with the work and the results. Or you can go to Loewe and buy the most wonderful, supple, colourful clothes anywhere in leather or suede. Much as we must admire the handicraft from Barrow Hepburn, a glance at the same model girl in a Loewe suit and coat-dress with a lot of character stitching will show at once, even in black and white and without too much detail, what the difference really is.

You will hardly be surprised, therefore, when I tell you that the trousers are £159 in soft but practical navy blue; that the jacket is £275 and the lovely coat-dress with a drawstring waist, worn here as a casual cape, is £249. Mark you, they will all last for years after a fabric facsimile wears out and

nobody could deny that suede and leather has a panache all its own.

Loewe's colours are wonderful—a petunia shade which is like a rich fuchsia contrast well with the misty grey, the pale grey or the royal blue and navy while the beiges are standards that can never be bettered but which can present cleaning problems. Besides the sophisticated sueded, Loewe has also caught the vague for mixing canvas with leather and is doing some very natty footwear and booties in this combination besides introducing the pairing into bags and handbags.

To go with their sueded, you can find silk blouses and shirts or cool, fresh pure linen. You need to have money but, if you are endowed, you can buy a forever, for anywhere international look at Loewe, 25 Old Bond Street, London, W1.

One specialist in hand-crafted leather tours the county agricultural shows describing this page leather work. When he is tapping or carving for all see at the shows, he is at Thelme, Chard, Somerset (V ham 444). He makes those full three-legged folding chairs that hurt into the backs of or into boots and take up space yet are so much more comfortable than the old saggy chairs. But he makes a so decorative that you can cherish rather than to hurl also does carved leather hags, with maple leaf designs for Canadian friends or a rather Spanish style for one who fancies a fancy. Another of his designs is "quilted" look, and is English with oak leaves across.

Do not forget the small or men as you travel East. Addicts of handmade leather should read the book, *Crafts in the Country* published by CoSira, the C. G. for Small Industries in the Areas, 35 Camp Road, Winton Common, London SW16 costs 75p plus 35p postage lists more than 900 crafts and women under county hags together with opening closing hours.

The London Suede and Cleaning Company has produced a little leaflet, six p of commonsense about the leather with answers to a people's questions. It opens a master service with a per cent guarantee on the it undertakes, and the add is 402 Green Lanes, Palm Green, London N13 5XQ. I will send the booklet to any for 15p, and it includes a tips on buying suede leather. The data all so obvious but people do tend ignore the obvious.

I must not end without repeat mention of the f which has worked miracles since shepherds' leather hides before my very eyes. I am dedicated only to the care of these natural skins which they treat with a lot affection and a deal expertise so that I have a clothes just about ready for a instant transformation into almost-new garments for a thing up to about £45 according to how rotten the old piece and how many new lengths leather and work are needed the rejuvenation. The Kuss brothers run a couple of shops off the main Gold Green shopping road, to whom come many stores with clients' coats and many a client in person. They match or contrast with new skins, reliable, handsome, resource, mend a then treat the skin back to supple. They are pretty far too, and most major repair take about three weeks but they will tackle even the smallest jobs, like moving buttons, in two or three days. Send your parcel and wait the return estimate, outlining what needs doing and when. Then if you decide to refit the estimate, return it with return postage of your garm and it comes back, shabby as a worn Suede Services is at Hoop Lane, London, NV (01-455 0052).

The Over Fifty Club advertisements recently caught my eye and I sent for as much information as possible because I do feel that most people ought to start planning early for retirement to ensure that the later is full, congenial, among friends and easier to take than retirements which suddenly translate people to what might as well be a desert island for all the friends they have in the new district.

In fact, the Over Fifty Club may one day tackle problems of this kind. For the time being, it strikes me as taking steps in the right direction by arranging special insurance schemes, not always easy to find when you are older. The schemes are arranged in conjunction with Lloyd's Life Assurance and C. E. Heath, Urquhart (Life and Pensions). There is travel insurance, and there are a good many special offers. Kitchen Devils, makers of those ultra-

sharp cooking and carving knives, is among them, as are dentists, that excellent company making and selling direct containers and DIY duvets, bedlinen and all. RPM Mc Accessories offer battery charger, car ssa halogen lamps and a lot more. Horrobin Pott suggest commemorative ware. And there seem to be a good many holidays, short or long, chosen from whether to the bulbfields of Ireland in season or further afield and sure that Wheatcroft would be welcome by many who suddenly find time for m. gardening.

You can save 10 per cent on Avis car hire worldwide, which cannot be bad. You get magazine and newsletter with the potent advantages of advertising to those with whom you have much in common and reading it advertisements in return, as well as providing forum for exchange of ideas or a platform pen friends.

Articles in the newsletter keep the oil ones in touch with special developments. I so often miss press coverage on health, hobbies and starting your own business on which there is a useful and entertaining booklet. The annual subscription is £7.50; yearly runs to £17.50 and, for the not-so-wealthy, there is a really concessive price of £45 for life membership. A spouse can be an automatic member but without insurance scheme and benefits, those geared to each and every membership subscription.

Obviously, as membership grows, so will facilities being offered. I must admit frankly I cannot be totally objective about this because I happen to have been so busy cheerful and so happy to have been so busy have arranged—I hope—all the insurance needed before that age, that I do not think it as being for me. Life will no doubt disprove that by smacking me in the face smartly, as life often has a way of doing. I for the uncertain the likely or just healthily doubtful about life and a new fun I believe there is something valuable here this OFC. At least it is worth sending off the free literature to find out for yours that £7.50 is not a lot of money per year over fifty years. The address is Over Fifty Club, The Elms, Broad Street, Wokingham, Berks RG11 1AB. And do hang on to the thought that for most people, 50 is the start of a freed that may never have been possible until children grew up or the work pattern set down. Fifty can be, for most, tremendous! But then, so is most of life.



Book Tokens has introduced three historical book plates in appealing colours and drawn in heraldic style. There are the knight, the unicorn and the dragon and each can be bought in packs of 20 for 40p. I have never seen full colour book-plates anywhere else so these must be rather a surprise for many. Find them in any of the 2,500 bookshops throughout Britain which handle Book Tokens. If stuck for a stockist near you, Book Tokens's head office is at 152 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9TZ.

Panicpack is a pack of postcards that I love having about house, although some get used more than others. They are brightly coloured with plain and simple messages in a or smaller letters. Like Get Well Soon, Congratulations, Happy Birthday, Hello, Dear, I love you, I hate you, Yes, No, Goodbye, super, thank you, I am sorry and so on. Twenty-four postcards for as many different occasions (but with two congratulatory cards). The most cryptic merely carries a giant E sign. Another says new address, and yet another asks how are you. One is just a pair of lips, lipsticked and semi-puckered. Amusing a delightful, rather a change from even the best greeting cards and as much fun to send as to receive. Produced by Millm Limited, 47 Fleet Street, London EC4. At £3 the pack, all dies held in a tough wallet to keep by you. No cheap, but rather gaudy. They can be bought separately at some stores for ab 15p or in smaller packs of a dozen, each for about £1.50. London at Harrods, Paperchase, Fenwick, Liberty, Debenhams, Out of London at similar stores like Dingles of Plymouth, Bell of Cambridge. Scandinavian Shop of Glasgow, Fenwick's Newcastle upon Tyne and Brent Cross and so on. Cries for b or other stockists to the designers at Fleet Street.

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